

CITY COUNCIL RESEARCH DIVISION LEGISLATIVE SUMMARY



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Bill Type and Number: Ordinance 2025-0614

Introducer/Sponsor(s): Council Member Johnson

Date of Introduction: August 12, 2025

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

Date of Analysis: August 11, 2025

Type of Action: Appropriation; CIP amendment; declaring the public necessity for acquiring fee simple title, temporary construction easements, through condemnation by right of eminent domain required for project; authorizing the Chief of the Engineering and Construction Management Division of the Department of Public Works to make a good faith deposit into the court registry; authorizing the Chief of the Real Estate Division of the Department of Public Works to make offers and negotiate for purchase of the properties; authorizing acquisition of properties by negotiation or eminent domain; waiving settlement limitation in Sections 112.307 and 112.309, *Ordinance Code*; authorizing and directing the Office of General Counsel to initiate condemnation proceedings and declarations of taking; providing for oversight by the Engineering and Construction Management Division of the Department of Public Works.

Bill Summary: This bill appropriates \$29,588,373 from the Old Middleburg 103rd—Branan Field—01—Other Construction Costs account to the Right-of-Way Acquisition account to be used to acquire interests in real property necessary to complete the project. The bill amends the 2025-2029 Capital Improvement Plan to reflect this appropriation. The legislation also declares the necessity of the acquisitions. It authorizes the Chiefs of the Engineering and Construction Management and Real Estate Divisions to take the actions necessary to effect those acquisitions, including deposit of a good faith estimate to the court registry, negotiation of the purchase of property, negotiation of claims for business damages, and negotiation of attorneys' fees and costs.

The legislation waives the settlement limitations outlined in sections 112.307, 112.308, and 112.309, *Ordinance Code*, recognizing that the value of the properties involved, along with statutorily mandated attorneys' fees and costs, may require settlements exceeding those limits. It also directs the Office of General Counsel to initiate legal proceedings to acquire condemnation property interests in furtherance of this ordinance and issue declarations of taking on behalf of the city.

Background Information: The City of Jacksonville has determined that the acquisition of real property in Council Districts 12 and 14 is necessary for the completion of the Old Middleburg—Branan Field—01 Project. The purpose of this legislation is to appropriate money from the Construction Costs account for that project to the Right-of-Way Acquisition account to enable the City to acquire the aforementioned real property to complete the project. The bill also provides relevant departments with the authorizations necessary to negotiate and complete those acquisitions.

Policy Impact Area: CIP, land acquisition

Fiscal Impact: This bill transfers \$29,588,373 from the Old Middleburg 103rd—Branan Field—01—Other Construction Costs account to the Right-of-Way Acquisition account.

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