# CITY COUNCIL RESEARCH DIVISION
## LEGISLATIVE SUMMARY

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**Bill Type and Number:** Ordinance 2023-875

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

**Date of Introduction:** December 12, 2023

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

**Date of Analysis:** December 12, 2023

**Type of Action:** Declaration of necessity, appropriation, acquisition of properties and CIP amendment

**Bill Summary:** This bill declares the public necessity for acquiring through condemnation by right of eminent domain, fee simple title and temporary construction easements located in Council District 4. $1.3 million is appropriated from the Belfort Road Widening Project/DM Other Construction Costs to Belfort Road Widening Project/DM Right-of-way Acquisition to purchase the properties. The 2024-2028 Five-Year Capital Improvement Plan is amended to provide funding for land acquisition and site preparation for the Project. The City of Jacksonville shall acquire fee simple title or easement rights in those lands by negotiation or eminent domain. The Chief of the Real Estate Division is authorized to execute a Declaration of Taking pursuant to Section 74.031, *Florida Statutes*, for the Property and to make or accept binding offers for purchase of the necessary interests in real property.

**Background Information:** The purpose of this legislation is to implement the Belfort Road widening project through the acquisition of the properties and easements. The project will widen Belfort Road from 2 lanes to 4 lanes with a center turn lane from Southpoint Parkway to Gate Parkway, modify/replace the traffic signal at Southpoint Parkway and Gate Parkway, and install traffic improvements on Belfort Road from A.C. Skinner Parkway to Gate Parkway. The goal of the project is to reduce congestion, improve safety and accommodate existing and future travel demands in the area.

**Policy Impact Area:** Belfort Road widening project

**Fiscal Impact**: $1,300,000 as initiated by B.T. 24-029

**Analyst:** Hampsey