

**CITY COUNCIL RESEARCH DIVISION
LEGISLATIVE SUMMARY**



NAYELI JIMENEZ
Research Assistant
(904) 255-5140
NJimenez1@coj.net

117 West Duval Street
City Hall, Suite 425
Jacksonville, FL 32202

Bill Type and Number: Ordinance 2025-194

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

Date of Introduction: March 11, 2025

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

Date of Analysis: March 11, 2025

Type of Action: Appropriation; grant authorization; interlocal agreement; one cycle emergency passage

Bill Summary: This bill approves a tri-party interlocal agreement between the City of Jacksonville, JEA, and JAXPORT to facilitate the raising of high-voltage electric transmission lines crossing the St. Johns River at the Fulton Cut Crossing. It includes \$3.5 million in previously appropriated but lapsed funds and \$17.5 million in reclassified funds from a loan to a City grant to JAXPORT. It authorizes a \$34.5 million grant to the Jacksonville Port Authority. It amends 2024-504-E, FY 24-25 Budget Ordinance, to replace the revised schedule B4 to clarify and partially consolidate the “Fulton Cut Crossing Powerlines” and “Jaxport dredging” projects. It authorizes the City to enter into an agreement with Jaxport and JEA to provide the grant. The Finance department will administer the agreement, and it requires one cycle emergency passage.

Background Information: The Fulton Cut Crossing transmission lines currently limit vessel access to JAXPORT’s Blount Island Terminal due to a height restriction of 175 feet. To accommodate larger cargo ships that require a clearance of 205 feet above mean high tide, JEA, JAXPORT, and the City of Jacksonville have collaborated to fund the raising of these power lines. This ordinance builds upon Ordinance 2022-874-E, which initially provided partial funding for the project. Since then, estimated costs have increased to \$117 million. JAXPORT and JEA will each contribute \$32.5 million, while FDOT has allocated \$22.5 million. The City’s share includes a reallocation of previously authorized funds, a conversion of \$12.5 million in loans to grants, and additional funding from cost savings on other JAXPORT projects. This legislation also amends the FY 2024-2025 Budget Ordinance (2024-504-E) to consolidate related projects and streamline financial oversight.

Policy Impact Area: Infrastructure improvement

Fiscal Impact: The bill appropriates \$3.5 million in previously allocated but lapsed funds and reclassifies \$17.5 million in existing funding from a loan to a grant. Additionally, it reallocates \$7 million in savings from the JAXPORT Dredge Project. A contingency grant of \$5 million is authorized if total project costs exceed \$117 million, with any additional overruns to be shared equally between JAXPORT and JEA as initiated by B.T. 25-058.

Analyst: Jimenez