

CITY COUNCIL RESEARCH DIVISION LEGISLATIVE SUMMARY



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Bill Type and Number: Resolution 2025-0531

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

Date of Introduction: July 22, 2025

Committee(s) of Reference: F

Date of Analysis: July 21, 2025

Type of Action: Approval and authorization of an Economic Development Agreement; authorization of a REV grant; authorizing approval of technical amendments; designating oversight department; affirming project compliance with Ordinance 2024-286-E; requesting two-reading passage under Council Rule 3.305

Bill Summary: This bill approves and authorizes the execution of an Economic Development Agreement between the City and Project Newark to support the expansion of the company's operations with a new manufacturing facility located in Jacksonville. The bill also authorizes a five-year Recapture Enhanced Value (REV) grant, not to exceed \$3.5 million, and technical amendments by the Executive Director of the Office of Economic Development. It designates the Office of Economic Development as the oversight department. The resolution automatically revokes City Council approvals and the Mayor's authorization to execute the Agreement if it is not signed within 90 days after the Office of Economic Development delivers the Agreement to the company. Two-reading passage of this legislation is requested under Council Rule 3.305

Background Information: Project Newark, a manufacturer with current operations in Jacksonville, is considering the City as a location for additional facilities to support the manufacture of new smokeless nicotine and smokeless caffeine pouch product lines. The project will result in \$135 million in capital investment, and the company has committed to creating 200 new jobs with an average salary, exclusive of benefits, of \$70,000. The Office of Economic Development has reviewed the company's application for community development and negotiated an Economic Development Agreement. Accordingly, it has been determined that the Agreement is in the public interest, and the public actions and financial assistance within the Agreement account for the long-term public interests and benefits to be achieved by the City.

Policy Impact Area: Economic Development Agreement

Fiscal Impact: If agreed upon, the City agrees to provide public investment in the form of a five-year, 50% REV grant not to exceed \$3.5 million.

Analyst: Russell