

CITY COUNCIL RESEARCH DIVISION LEGISLATIVE SUMMARY



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Bill Type and Number: Ordinance 2024-470

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

Date of Introduction: June 11, 2024

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

Date of Analysis: June 13, 2024

Type of Action: Appropriation of grant funds; designation of oversight department

Bill Summary: This bill appropriates \$845,350 in grant funding from the United States Department of Energy (“DOE”) Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant Program to fund JEA’s Restore, Repair and Resiliency Program. These funds will be used to support efforts to conduct energy audits and weatherization repairs that lower energy bills for up to 110 low-income residents. It designates the Neighborhoods Department to oversee the project.

Background Information: The Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant (“EECBG”) Program, a DOE program, is designed to assist states and localities in implementing strategies to reduce energy use and improve energy efficiency.

These grant funds will support efforts to conduct energy audits and weatherization repairs. Services will include blower door tests to measure air that leaks out of the home; installation of a data monitoring system to measure climate inside the home; and providing for the replacement of HVAC units, doors, insulation, and energy efficient lightbulbs. The program will focus on low-income households in Jacksonville’s Historic Eastside and then expand city-wide.

These funds were awarded to the City by the DOE to implement this program, and JEA is considered a sub-recipient and is responsible for seeing this program to its completion. This program is currently fully funded by federal dollars. JEA has agreed to provide these updates to low-income, single-family, owner-occupied homes within 24 months as required by the grant requirements. Reporting requirements will be handled by JEA staff with back-up support by Housing and Community Development staff. Funding will be provided on a reimbursement basis.

Policy Impact Area: Energy efficiency

Fiscal Impact: This bill appropriates \$845,350 in federal grant funds to pay for energy efficiency services for low-income residents in the Historic Eastside neighborhood.

Analyst: Webb