

**CITY COUNCIL RESEARCH DIVISION
LEGISLATIVE SUMMARY**



JEFFREY R. CLEMENTS
Chief of Research
(904) 255-5137

117 West Duval Street
City Hall, Suite 425
Jacksonville, FL 32202
FAX (904) 255-5229

Bill Type and Number: Ordinance 2022-61

Introducer/Sponsor(s): Council Member DeFoor

Date of Introduction: January 25, 2022

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

Date of Analysis: January 27, 2022

Type of Action: Appropriation; Ordinance Code amendment; requests to Mayor; request to Sheriff's Office; directive to Legislative Services Division

Bill Summary: The bill reappropriates \$310,500 in the Derelict Vessel and Floating Structure Removal Fund from the Parks, Recreation and Community Services Department's budget to the Neighborhoods Department's budget for implementation of the recently created Ordinance Code Chapter 388 – Boats and Waterways. The bill amends Ordinance Code Chapter 388 – Boats and Waterways – to create a new Part 4 – Anchoring Limitation Areas. It directs the Council's Legislative Services Division to send copies of the Ortega River Anchoring Limitation Area maps to the Information Technologies Division for posting on the City's website and to the Parks and Recreation Department for purposes of coordination with the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission in the posting of appropriate signage. It requests the Mayor to direct the Parks, Recreation and Community Services Department to oversee the required signage and to create a database for the Anchoring Limitation Areas. The bill requests the Mayor to direct the Neighborhoods Department to oversee the removal of derelict and abandoned vessels and requests the Sheriff to direct the JSO Marine Unit to cooperate with the Neighborhood's Department in the enforcement of the Anchoring Area regulations.

Background Information: The Florida Legislature recently amended Section 327.4108, Florida Statutes, to provide for counties meeting certain criteria to establish anchoring limitation areas adjacent to urban areas that have residential docking facilities and significant recreational boating traffic. The City is enacting an ordinance establishing anchoring limitation areas within the county pursuant to that section. The Waterways Commission has taken citizen testimony and had lengthy discussions about the need to regulate abandoned vessels and floating structures in Jacksonville's waterways and to regulate the mooring of boats in the Ortega River area for the purpose of safety for the boating public and the protection of private waterfront property interests in the area.

Policy Impact Area: Waterway and boating safety

Fiscal Impact: None

Analyst: Clements