

**CITY COUNCIL RESEARCH DIVISION  
LEGISLATIVE SUMMARY**



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**Bill Type and Number:** Ordinance 2023-216

**Introducer/Sponsor(s):** Council Members Howland and Morgan

**Date of Introduction:** March 28, 2023

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

**Date of Analysis:** March 30, 2023

**Type of Action:** Appropriation; Ordinance Code amendment; designation of oversight agency; codification instructions

**Bill Summary:** The bill appropriates \$65,000 from the Special Council Contingency account to provide funding for the erection of speed zone regulatory signage in the Arlington River adjacent to the Cesery Boulevard bridge. It amends Ordinance Code Chapter 614 – Public Order and Safety – to create a slow speed/minimum wake zone within 300 feet on either side of the Cesery Boulevard bridge and provides codification instructions. The Parks, Recreation and Community Services Department is designated as the City’s oversight agency to coordinate with the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission and any other regulatory agency as may be appropriate to coordinate the installation of the signage.

**Background Information:** The establishment of a slow speed/minimum wake zone at the Cesery Boulevard bridge over the Arlington River was recommended by the Jacksonville Waterways Commission after more than a year of study, debate and public input. The presence of two low bridges with relatively narrow spans (Cesery Boulevard and University Boulevard) adjacent to a 90-degree bend in the river and with two rowing clubs (Jacksonville Rowing Club and First Coast Rowing Club) located on either side of the Cesery bridge combine to produce an area of congestion and potential danger for boaters of all types. State law permits a local government to designate a slow speed/no wake zone and post appropriate signage in areas where hazardous conditions exist. The Cesery Bridge zone would be the 10<sup>th</sup> such zone designated in the Ordinance Code.

**Policy Impact Area:** Boating safety

**Fiscal Impact:** The bill appropriates \$65,000 from Special Council Contingency for permitting and sign production and installation.

**Analyst:** Clements