

**CITY COUNCIL RESEARCH DIVISION
LEGISLATIVE SUMMARY**



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Bill Type and Number: Ordinance 2023-0340

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

Date of Introduction: May 23, 2023

Committee(s) of Reference: Finance, TEU

Date of Analysis: May 25, 2023

Type of Action: Appropriation of funds

Bill Summary: The bill would appropriate \$87,575.00 from the Air Pollution Tag Fee fund balance in order to replace two aging ambient air monitoring analyzers, operated and maintained by the Neighborhoods Department, Environmental Quality Division.

Background Information: Ambient air monitoring analyzers are crucial tools for monitoring and reporting the levels of carbon monoxide and particulate matter in Duval County, as mandated by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). There are a total of seven such analyzers in Duval County, all of which, including the ones slated for replacement, fall within the EPA's stipulated replacement timeframe of 5-7 years.

The appropriation derives from the Air Pollution Tag Fee fund balance, which is established according to *Florida Statutes* Chapter 320.03 (6). This statute mandates a non-refundable fee of \$1 for every vehicle license registration sold, transferred, or replaced. Owing to the City's approved local air pollution control program, a portion of this fee, ranging from \$0.50-\$0.75, is required to be remitted back to the City for each license registration transaction. This remitted portion is then deposited into a trust fund earmarked for air pollution control programs.

The specific amount the City receives from this fee varies between \$0.50-\$0.75, depending on the spending against the budgeted threshold from the previous year. The proposed purchase of these ambient air monitoring analyzers would enable the City to elevate the remittance from the current \$0.50 to the maximum \$0.75 of the \$1.00 Air Pollution Tag Fee. In the preceding year, staffing shortages in the Environmental Quality Division resulted in an under-spending that prevented reaching the threshold necessary to secure a return of \$0.75 per fee.

Policy Impact Area: Air pollution control programs

Fiscal Impact: The bill would appropriate \$87,575.00 from the Air Pollution Tag Fee fund balance.

Analyst: Armstrong