

# CITY COUNCIL RESEARCH DIVISION LEGISLATIVE SUMMARY



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**Bill Type and Number:** Ordinance 2024-364

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

**Date of Introduction:** May 14, 2024

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

**Date of Analysis:** May 16, 2024

**Type of Action:** Appropriation; amendment to septic tank program grant process; authorization of Office of General Counsel to prepare a standard septic tank project agreement; designation of oversight agencies

**Bill Summary:** The bill appropriates available all-years revenue balance and reallocates the balance from completed projects within the Northwest Jacksonville Economic Development Fund, as follows: (1) \$200,000 to the Septic Tank and Sewer Connection – Miscellaneous Grants and Aids account, comprised of \$80,250 from completed projects and \$119,750 from all-years revenue; (2) \$5,767 from all-years revenue to the Mobile Markets Program – Contingency account; and (3) \$665,650.26 from all-years revenue to the NWJEDF Fund – Contingency account. This appropriation also removes the fund balance appropriations in the all-years fund.

The bill authorizes amendment of the Septic Tank Program grant process, including amended criteria and increased grant amounts, for the repair and replacement of non-residential properties septic tanks and sewer connections. It authorizes the Office of General Counsel to prepare standard agreements between grant recipients and the City of Jacksonville reflecting the revisions being made to the failing septic tank program and grant criteria. The bill continues the requirement for twice a year reporting by the OED to the City Council on use of the grant program. It designates the OED as the oversight agency for the grant process and the Public Works Department as the oversight agency for the septic tank repair/replacement projects.

**Background Information:** The funds allocated from the NWJEDF to the Septic Tank Grant account will replenish the account to allow expansion of grant funding. This allocation will reflect rising costs so the grants can offset the large financial burden a construction project involving connection to JEA sewer system. This legislation will also update the Failing Septic Tank Grants that are deemed to require connection to city sewer to provide that they may be awarded in a total amount of no more than \$75,000. All costs that exceed the maximum grant amount must be paid by the property owner. Funds being appropriated are comprised of funds from completed agreements, repayments for terminated projects, and repayments for loans. The Office of Economic Development will continue to provide oversight for the Failing Non-Residential Septic Tank Repair/Replacement and Sewer Connection Program. The BT associated with this request appropriates additional funding for the Septic Tank Repair/Replacement and Sewer Connection Program. It also cleans up prior years' fund balance revenue appropriations in 1Cloud and appropriates available all-years revenue balance to a contingency account for future use and allocation in accordance with the NWJEDF guidelines.

**Policy Impact Area:** Commercial septic tank repair/replacement grant program

**Fiscal Impact:** The net transfer amount after cleanup items is \$871,414.26.

**Analyst:** Clements