

**CITY COUNCIL RESEARCH DIVISION
LEGISLATIVE SUMMARY**



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Bill Type and Number: Ordinance 2021-282

Introducer/Sponsor(s): Council Member Pittman

Date of Introduction: May 11, 2021

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

Date of Analysis: May 13, 2021

Type of Action: Appropriation; fiscal year carry-over authorization; approving Business Improvement Program; waiver of certain fees; designation of oversight agency

Bill Summary: The bill appropriates \$150,000 from Office of Economic Development's Moncrief Business Improvement Program – Phase 1 to fund grants for Moncrief- areas businesses. The funds are authorized to carry-over to the end of FY21-22. The bill approves the Moncrief Area Business Improvement Program – Phase 1 requirements and eligibility area and waives fees for certain administrative deviations or waivers pursuant to the Zoning Code as necessary to implement Phase 1 of the Program. The Office of Economic Development is designated as the City's oversight agency for the program.

Background Information: The Moncrief Area Business Improvement Program is designed to help struggling businesses improve the visual and structural appearance of their properties, including landscaping, signage, façade improvements, and parking lot improvements. To be eligible, the properties must be commercially zoned, located in District 8 and along a commercial corridor. The Office of Economic Development will develop an application process which will include criteria for the ratio of owner-provided funding to City funding, overall visual impact to the surrounding area and corridor, a comprehensive plan for improving the property (not just a single City-funded element), and impact to pedestrian and vehicular movement along the right-of-way.

The bill provides for a waiver of application fees for businesses applying for the following types of actions: 1) administrative deviations to reduce the minimum number of required off-street parking spaces; 2) administrative deviations to reduce the minimum landscaping requirements; and 3) sign waivers.

Policy Impact Area: Economic redevelopment

Fiscal Impact: The bill appropriates \$150,000 to the business improvement program for grant purposes and waives an undetermined amount of application fees for deviations and waivers.

Analyst: Clements