

CITY COUNCIL RESEARCH DIVISION

LEGISLATIVE SUMMARY



COLLEEN HAMPSEY,
RESEARCH ASSISTANT
(904) 255-5151

117 West Duval Street
City Hall, Suite 425
Jacksonville, FL 32202
FAX (904) 630-3403

Bill Type and Number: 2021-444

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

Date of Introduction: July 27, 2021

Committee(s) of Reference: F

Date of Analysis: July 28, 2021

Type of Action: Appropriation, designation of reporting requirements

Bill Summary: This bill is an appropriation of \$200,000, a transfer of available funds from the Countywide Economic Development II Project to the Façade Renovation Grant Program. The Office of Economic Development will continue to provide biannual reports to the City Council and Council Auditor in accordance with Ordinance 2018-370-E.

Background Information: The purpose of this legislation is to provide funds for the Façade Renovation Grant Program which is designed to provide commercial or retail façade renovation funding assistance for existing businesses in economically distressed areas of Jacksonville. This public investment can help to reduce blight and create positive momentum towards community redevelopment. Façade renovations approved to date include extensive painting and pressure washing projects, new and improved signage to increase visibility, upgrading windows and doors for energy efficiency and enhanced security/safety, repairing or replacing fencing, repairing masonry, and upgrading landscaping. These grants are a 2:1 City to owner/tenant match program; funds exist currently to complete the pending and current projects. There have been many more applicants after an outreach mailer in April, and this appropriation will cover the costs for an estimated 35 additional grants.

Policy Impact Area: Façade Renovation Grant Program

Fiscal Impact: Appropriation of \$200,000 as initiated by B.T. 21-086

Analyst: Hampsey