# NEIGHBORHOODS DEPARTMENT HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DIVISION





JACKSONVILLE, FLORIDA

TO:

**City Council** 

THROUGH:

Diana M. Seydlorsky, Chief, Housing and Community Development Division

FROM:

Dayatra M. Coles, Affordable Housing Coordinate

DATE:

May 25, 2016

SUBJECT:

Chapter 179 Foreclosed Property Registry – Funding Recommendations

During the last N.I.C.E. Committee on May 16, 2016, the Committee Members requested information related to Ordinance 2015-240-E, amended Chapter 179 "Mortgage Foreclosure Regulation" and the established policy for the authorized use of funds in the Foreclosed Property Registry. This policy was established so that those neighborhoods and communities most negatively affected by the ongoing lack of adequate maintenance of properties; subject to mortgages in default or that have been foreclosed, can be eligible for funding for community development and maintenance, in addition to foreclosure intervention programs, code enforcement, community outreach, education, and training.

The Housing and Community Development Division presented the attached recommendations for funding from the Foreclosed Property Registry to the Jacksonville Housing and Community Development Commission (JHCDC) at its meeting on Wednesday, May 25, 2016 at 9:30 am. These recommendations are in line with Ordinance 2015-340-E (Exhibit 1) "Strategies and Uses of Foreclosure Registry Funds" which is attached for your convenience.

Please note that the JHCDC recommendations are required to receive review and approval from the Mayor's Budget Review Committee (MBRC) prior to the filing of legislation for appropriation.

Attachment(s):

**Chapter 179 Registry Funding Recommendations** 

Ordinance 2015-340-E

City of Jacksonville
Neighborhoods Department
Housing and Community Development Division
Chapter 179 Registry

Rever	ue Available for Appropriation (03/31/2016)	\$	2,575,000	
Projected Revenue Collections FY2016/2017			1,300,000	
	Total Recommended Appropriation FY2016/2017	\$	3,875,000	
Strate	gy 1 - Directly Impact Properties on the Foreclosure Registry (30% Minimum)			
>	Foreclosure Intervention - Provides direct cash assistance up to \$8,500 to individuals and families who are in default or facing possible foreclosure action that meet the eligibility criterion.	\$	994,500	117 Units of Assistance at \$8,500 Each Maximum
•	Foreclosure Mediation - Provides consumer credit counseling and mediation services to eligible homeowners to prevent foreclosure actions through possible loan modification and/or other variable resolutions, including legal services not related to foreclosure litigation.	\$	175,000	500 Clients at \$350 Each Maximum
<b>&gt;</b>	Education brochures, including the creation, production and distribution of informational materials to assist with foreclosure prevention and foreclosure intervention. Promote the education and advertisement of the accomplishments of the vacant registry initiative.	\$	-	Funding for this activity not recommended at this time. Intervention & Mediation Agencies have existing informational outlets
***************************************	Total Strategy 1 Recommended Appropriation -	\$	1,169,500	30.18%
Strate	gy 2 - Neighborhood Development (40% Minimum)	ı		
Þ	Provide resources for community revitalization efforts such as mowing, board-up, demolition and other ancillary rehabilitation improvements of blighted private properties on or in proximity to homes on the foreclosure registry.	\$	1,115,930	To support Municipal Code Compliance activities on or in proximity to homes on the foreclosure registry.
<b>&gt;</b>	Provide gap or construction financing to non-profit developers for the acquisition, rehabilitation and sale of vacant and/or REO homes in which the total development costs exceed the appraised value of the homes.	\$	564,570	To support the redevelopment of affordable housing for ownership
Þ	Batch Foreclosure	\$	-	Funding for this activity not recommended at this time.
<b>&gt;</b>	Administrative Funds to support staffing needs related to administering the Foreclosure Registry's programs.	\$	387,500	Funding for a portion of the personnel costs for four (4) staff members responsible for managing the registry, managing contracts and providing supervisory oversight.

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City of Jacksonville Neighborhoods Department Housing and Community Development Division Chapter 179 Registry

Total Strategy 2 Recommended Appropriation	\$	2,068,000	- 53.37% -
rategy 3 - Community Development, Outreach & Education (20% Maximum)			
Neighborhood Matching Grants - Communities in neighborhoods with high foreclosure rates/blight could apply for funds up to \$5,000 for physical improvements in their communities. The funds awarded would be linked to what the neighborhoods could match in funds, donations and/or sweat equity. Some of the possible uses could be 1) clean up graffiti, 2) repair and install new fencing, 3) replace or develop neighborhood identification or entrance signs, 4) community gardens, and 5) painting/landscaping of pre-selected homes in areas surrounding the properties on the vacant registry.	\$	100,000	To provide Neighborhood Matching Grants for up to 20 neighborhoods with high foreclosure rates and/or blight.
CommUniverCity - The CommUniverCity was a multi-week leadership training course that was offered to potential community leaders citywide. The goal of CommUniverCity was to teach skills that would establish and maintain successful neighborhood organizations.	\$	50,000	To cover costs associated with the creation and execution of a CommUniverCity training course in fisca year 2016/2017.
Communication/Educational Tools - Create and develop communication and educational tools for outreach activities that can be citywide and/or in neighborhoods with high foreclosure rates which include, but are not limited to neighborhood forums, foreclosure/housing educational fairs, a citywide newsletter (email and/or printed publication), newspaper advertisements, flyers and other promotional activities to inform residents of upcoming meetings and events in their community.	\$	100,000	To cover costs associated with Community Education. Could be used toward the City's Blight Initiative.
Total Strategy 3 Recommended Appropriation	· \$	250,000	6.45%
ontingency (10% Maximum)		-	•
Can be appropriated to a Strategy 1 or Strategy 2 funding need or carried-forward to fund balance.	\$	387,500	Recommend carrying forward the contingency.
			-

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## PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DIVISION

Where Florida Begins.

Revised: May 4, 2015

## Strategies and Uses of Foreclosure Registry Funds

Strategy 1: Directly Impact Properties on the Foreclosure Registry
Foreclosure Prevention Strategy – Direct Services to Homeowners with
Properties on the Registry
Funded at a minimum of 30% of the annually budgeted appropriation

- Foreclosure Intervention Provides direct cash assistance, up to \$8,500, to individuals and families who are in default or facing possible foreclosure action that meet the eligibility criterion.
- Foreclosure Mediation Provides consumer credit counseling and mediation services to eligible homeowners to prevent foreclosure actions through possible loan modification and/or other variable resolutions; including legal services not related to foreclosure litigation.
- Education brochures, including the creation, production and distribution of informational materials to assist with foreclosure prevention and foreclosure intervention. Promote the education and advertisement of the accomplishments of the vacant registry initiative.

Strategy 2: Neighborhood Development
Housing and Community Development Strategy – Provide Services to
Residential Properties on the Registry and Neighboring Properties Impacted
by Properties on the Registry
Funded at a minimum of 40% of the annually budgeted appropriation

- Provide resources for community revitalization efforts such as mowing, board-up, demolition and other ancillary rehabilitation improvements of blighted private properties on or in proximity to homes on the foreclosure registry.
- Provide gap or construction financing to non-profit developers for the acquisition, rehabilitation and sale of vacant and/or REO homes in which the total development costs exceed the appraised value of the home.
- Batch Foreclosure
- Administrative funds to support staffing needs related to administering the Foreclosure Registry's programs.

Foreclosure Registry Uses May 4, 2015 Page Two

Strategy 3: Community Development, Outreach and Education
Assistance to Neighborhoods and Organizations in which Foreclosure
Registry Properties are Located
Funded at a maximum of 20% of the annually budgeted appropriation

- Neighborhood Matching Grants Communities in neighborhoods with high foreclosure rates/blight could apply for funds up to \$5,000 for physical improvements in their communities. The funds awarded would be linked to what the neighborhoods could match in funds, donations and/or sweat equity. Some of the possible uses could be:

   clean up graffiti, 2) repair and install new fencing, 3) replace or develop neighborhood identification or entrance signs, 4) community gardens, and 5) painting/landscaping of pre-selected homes in areas surrounding the properties on the vacant registry.
- CommUniverCity The CommUniverCity was a multi-week leadership training course
  that was offered to potential community leaders citywide. The goal of CommUniverCity
  was to teach skills that would establish and maintain successful neighborhood
  organizations.
- Communication/Educational Tools Create and develop communication and educational tools for outreach activities that can be used Citywide and/or in neighborhoods with high foreclosure rates which include, but are not limited to: neighborhood forums, foreclosure/housing educational fairs, a citywide newsletter (email and/or printed publications), newspaper advertisements, flyers and other promotional activities to inform residents of upcoming meetings and events in their community.

Contingency: 10% available to be appropriated to Strategy 1 or 2 funding need, or carried forward to fund balance.

#### **ORDINANCE/BUDGETING EXAMPLE:**

Measure of Fund balance determines Fiscal Year Available Funds = \$1,000,000 Council Approval required for the use of any part of Fiscal Year Available \$1,000,000

## **Uses of Foreclosure Registry Funds**

Strategy 1 - Foreclosure Prevention Strategy minimum use = 30%	=\$300,000
Strategy 2 - Housing and Community Development Strategy minimum use = 40%	=\$400,000
Strategy 3 - Community Development, Outreach & Education maximum use = 20%	=\$200,000
Contingency funds available = 10% for Strategy 1 or 2 funding needs only	=\$100,000

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DICT #

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#### OFFICE OF MAYOR ALVIN BROWN

ST. JAMES BUILDING 117 WEST DUVAL STREET, SUITE 400 JACKSONVILLE, FLORIDA 32202

June 23, 2015

PH: (904) 630-1776 FAX: (904) 630-2391 www.coj.net

The Honorable Clay Yarborough City Council President c/o Legislative Services 117 West Duval Street, Suite 430 Jacksonville, FL 32202

Re:

Ordinance 2015-340-E

Dear President Yarborough:

Enclosed is Resolution 2015-340-E, which I am returning to City Council without my signature.

Thank you very much for your service to Jacksonville.

Sincerely,

Alvin Brown

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Anderson, Love and Bishop and amended by the Finance Committee: Introduced by Council Members Lee, Jones, Gulliford, Crescimbeni, Amended 6/9/15

#### OKDINANCE 2015-340-E

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 179 (MORTGAGE

RECORDS; MONTHLY AND ANNUAL REPORTS), (AUDITING RIGHTS; INSPECTION OF BOOKS AND AND COMPLIANCE; CREATING A NEW SECTION 179.112 OF FUNDS AND PROVIDING FOR INTERNAL TRACKING COMPLIANCE), ORDINANCE CODE, FOR EXPENDITURE **GMA** FUNDS; MONITORING (EXPENDITURE OF THE FUNDS; CREATING A NEW SECTION 179.111 DECLARING A PUBLIC PURPOSE FOR EXPENDITURE OF IN KEGIZLKA FUNDS OE AUTHORIZED USE OF THE PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT FOR THE HOUSING & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DIVISION CODE, PERTAINING TO ADOPTION OF A POLICY BY DECLARATION OF MUNICIPAL PURPOSE), ORDINANCE (ADOPTION OF POLICY AND RULES AND REGULATION; CHAPTER 179; CREATING A NEW SECTION 179.110 DO NOT REGISTER PROPERTIES AS REQUIRED UNDER THE AMOUNT OF \$500.00 FOR THOSE MORTGAGEES WHO ANNUAL RENEWAL FEE; PROVIDING FOR A FINE IN EEE EKOW \$120.00 TO \$250.00; REQUIRING AN OKDINANCE CODE, TO INCREASE THE REGISTRATION DEFAULT) AND 179.106 (SECURITY REQUIREMENTS), KEAL PROPERTY BY MORTGAGE HOLDING MORTGAGES IN 179.104 (INSPECTION AND REGISTRATION OF VACANT SECTIONS 179.102 (DEFINITIONS), **YMENDING** FORECLOSURE REGULATION), ORDINANCE CODE;

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ORDINANCE CODE, FOR AUDITING RIGHTS, INSPECTION OF BOOKS AND RECORDS, AND MONTHLY AND ANNUAL REPORTS; PROVIDING FOR ADOPTION BY COUNCIL OF A POLICY FOR THE EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS CONSISTENT WITH THIS CHAPTER AND ANNUAL REVIEW OF THE POLICY; PROVIDING FOR REVIEW OF THE REGISTRATION FEE AND OTHER FEES ANNUALLY FOLLOWING THE FIRST TWO YEARS OF ENACTMENT; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

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WHEREAS, in 2010 the Jacksonville City Council adopted Ordinance 2010-327-E to create a foreclosed property registry for mortgaged real property which is in default, distress or in the process of foreclosure; and

WHEREAS, the foreclosed property registry established a process to mitigate the level of deteriorating property within the City of Jacksonville by providing that funds from the registration of properties, in addition to covering administrative costs of the registry, go into programs for foreclosure intervention programs and code enforcement; and

WHEREAS, there are certain areas within the City that suffer from blighted conditions and devaluation in property values at a greater intensity and frequency than other areas of the City, particularly in the following zip codes: 32202, 32205, 32206, 32208, 32209, 32254 due to the lack of adequate maintenance of properties subject to mortgages that are in default or have been foreclosed; and

WHEREAS, the City desires to establish a policy so that those neighborhoods and communities most negatively affected by the ongoing lack of adequate maintenance of properties subject to

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29 30 mortgages in default or that have been foreclosed can be eligible for funding for community development and maintenance, in addition to foreclosure intervention programs and code enforcement; and

WHEREAS, the City ο£ Jacksonville further finds that improvements and made efficiencies be can to the current registration process to enhance the program; and

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Jacksonville has determined that the following additions and modifications to the City's Ordinance Code will meet a public purpose by serving and contributing to the promotion and protection of the general health, safety and welfare of the residents of the City of Jacksonville; and,

WHEREAS, upon passage, duly noticed public hearings required by law will have been held by the City Council of the City of Jacksonville, at which public hearings all residents interested persons were given an opportunity to be heard; now therefore

BE IT ORDAINED by the Council of the City of Jacksonville:

- Section 1. Recitals Incorporated. The above recitals are true and correct and by this reference are incorporated herein and made an integral part hereof.
- Section 2. Amending Chapter 179 (Mortgage Foreclosure Regulation), Ordinance Code. Chapter 179 (Mortgage Foreclosure Regulation) is amended to read as follows:

#### CHAPTER 179. MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE REGISTRATION

Sec. 179.102 Definitions.

The following words, terms and phrases, when used in this Chapter, shall have the meanings ascribed to them, except where the context clearly indicates a different meaning. Where the context

will permit and no definitions are provided herein, the definitions provided in the Florida Building Code shall apply.

Abandoned real property means any real property that is vacant, and is under a public notice of default, notice of mortgagee's sale, pending tax assessor's lien sale, or is pending a mortgage foreclosure, or notice of mortgagee's sale, or lien sale and/or properties that have been the subject of a mortgage foreclosure sale where title is retained by the mortgagee, and/or any properties transferred under a deed-in-lieu of foreclosure sale, a short sale or any other legal means.

Annual registration shall mean 12 months from the date of the first action that required registration, as determined by the City of Jacksonville's Housing and Community Development Division, or its designee, and every subsequent 12 months. The date of the initial registration may be different than the date of the first action that required registration.

Default means that the mortgagee has filed a forcelosure action or public notice of default on the mortgage. A mortgage shall be considered in default at such time as the mortgagee declares said mortgage to be in default either in writing, by recording a lis pendens, by commencing forcelosure proceedings; or by any other actions demonstrating a breach of a security covenant on a property. a claim by a mortgagee, or other lien holder, that the mortgagor has not complied with the terms of the mortgage on the property or other evidence of the debt referred to in the mortgage.

Enforcement officer means any fulltime law enforcement officer, building official, fire inspector or code enforcement officer employed by the City of Jacksonville.

Evidence of vacancy means any condition that on its own, or combined with other conditions present, would lead a reasonable

person to believe that the property is vacant. Such conditions may include, but are not limited to: overgrown and/or dead vegetation; electricity, water or other utilities turned off; stagnant swimming pool; or statements by neighbors, passers-by, delivery agents or government agents.

Foreclosure means the judicial process by which a property, placed as security for a mortgage loan, after a judicial process, is to be sold at an auction to satisfy a debt upon which the borrower has defaulted. the legal process by which a mortgagee, or other lien holder, terminates or attempts to terminate a property owner's equitable right of redemption to obtain legal and equitable title to the real property subject to the lien held by that mortgagee or other lien holder. This definition shall include, but is not limited to, public notice of default, deed-in-lieu of foreclosure, sale to the mortgagee or lien holder prior to certificate of title, certificate of title and all other processes, activities and actions, by whatever name, associated with the described process. The process is not concluded until title to the property is transferred to a third party either before or after certificate of title or until the legal process is dismissed.

"Local" means within the boundaries of the City of Jacksonville, Florida.

"Local Agent" means the property manager or agent designated by the mortgagee upon registration as required under this Chapter.

The Local Agent's office must be located within twenty (20) miles of the City of Jacksonville.

"Mortgagee" means the creditor, including but not limited to, trustees; servicing companies; lenders; any agent, servant or employee of the creditor; any successor in interest; or any assignee of the creditor's rights, interests or obligations under the mortgage agreement.

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or guardian of the estate of the holder of legal title; or

3) is a mortgagee in possession of any such property, or is a mortgagee with actual control of access to the property by any

including but not limited to, a mobile home park; or

alone or severally with others:

means including, but not limited to, changing locks or putting on a lock box; or

"Owner" means every person, entity, or service company, who

1) has legal or equitable title to any dwelling, dwelling

2) has care, charge or control of any dwelling, dwelling unit,

unit, mobile dwelling unit, residential building, residential

structure, residential parcel of land, vacant or otherwise,

mobile dwelling unit, residential building, residential structure

or residential parcel of land, vacant or otherwise, including a

mobile home park, in any capacity, including but not limited to,

agent, executor, executrix, administrator, administratix, trustee

4) is an agent, trustee or other person appointed by the courts and vested with possession or control of any such property.

Vacant means any building or structure that is not lawfully occupied or inhabited by human beings as evidenced by the conditions set forth in the definition of "Evidence of Vacancy" above.

\* \* \*

Sec. 179.104. Inspection and registration of vacant foreclosed real property by mortgagee holding mortgages in default.

(a) Any mortgagee who holds a mortgage on real property located within the City of Jacksonville shall perform an inspection of the property upon default by the mortgagor or prior to the issuance of a notice of default. If the property is found to be vacant or shows evidence of vacancy, it shall be deemed vacant or abandoned and the mortgagee shall, within.

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Property inspected pursuant to subsection (a) above that (b) is occupied but remains in default, shall be inspected on a regular basis every 30 days by the mortgagee or mortgagee's designee.

- Within ten (10) days of the date any mortgagee declares (c) its mortgage to be in default, the mortgagee shall register the real property with the City of Jacksonville's Neighborhood Department Community Development Division, or its designee, on forms promulgated by the Housing & Neighborhood Department, Housing & Community Development Division, or other manner as directed, and, at the time of registration, indicate whether the property is vacant, shows evidence of vacancy or is occupied, and shall designate in writing a local property manager Local Agent to inspect, maintain and secure the real property subject to the mortgage in default. A separate registration is required for each property, whether it is found to be vacant or occupied.
- Registration pursuant to this section shall contain at a minimum the name of the mortgagee, the mailing address of the mortgagee, e-mail address, and telephone number, and name of the local property manager Local Agent and said person's address, email address, and telephone number. The <del>local property manager</del> Local Agent shall be responsible to inspect, secure and maintain the property. The property manager Local Agent named in registration shall be located within twenty (20) miles of the City of Jacksonville and available to be contacted by the City, Monday through Friday between 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., legal holidays and lunch hours excepted.
- (e) At the time of registration each Each registrant shall pay a non-refundable annual registration fee of \$150.00 \$250.00 for each registration. Subsequent annual registrations and fees in the amount of \$250.00 are due within 30 days of the expiration of the

previous registration. Said fees shall be used to offset the costs of (1) registration and registration enforcement, (2) code enforcement and mitigation related to blighted and deteriorating foreclosed properties that were owner-occupied, (3) post-closing counseling and foreclosure intervention limited to owner-occupied persons default, in which may include cash mortgage modification assistance: ,and (4) may be used for any related purposes as may be adopted in the policy set forth in Section 179.110 below. Said fees shall be deposited to a special account in the <del>Planning and Development Department Housi</del>ng & Community Development Division dedicated to the cost of implementation and enforcement of this ordinance, combatting blight in affected neighborhoods consistent with the policy adopted by the Housing & Community Development Division in Section 179.110, registries so required. None of the funds provided for in this section shall be utilized for the legal defense of foreclosure actions.

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been the subject of a foreclosure sale where title is transferred to the mortgagee as well as any properties transferred to the mortgagee under a deed in lieu of foreclosure. Beginning on July 1, 2015, each individual property on the registry that has been registered for twelve months or more prior to that date shall have thirty (30) days to renew the registration and pay the \$250.00 annual renewal fee. The anniversary date for annual renewal of registration for these properties shall be deemed to be July 1 each subsequent year. Properties registered less than twelve months prior to July 1, 2015 shall use the date of initial registration as their annual renewal date and shall pay the \$250.00 annual renewal date on the anniversary of the initial registration each subsequent year.

(g) If the defaulted mortgage and/or servicing on a property is sold or transferred, the new mortgagee is subject to all the terms of this Chapter. Within ten (10) days of the transfer, the new mortgagee shall register the property or update the existing registration and pay a registration update fee of \$50.00. Any and all previous unpaid fees, regardless of who the mortgagee was at the time of registration was required, including but not limited to unregistered periods during the foreclosure process shall be the responsibility of the new mortgagee and are due and payable with the updated registration.

- (h) If the mortgagee of a foreclosed real property sells or transfers the property in a non-arm's length transaction to a related entity or person, the transferee is subject to all the terms of this Chapter, and within ten (10) days of the transfer the transferee shall register the property or update the existing registration and pay a registration update fee of \$50.00. Any and all previous unpaid fees, regardless of who the mortgagee was at the time registration was required, including but not limited to unregistered periods during the foreclosure process, are the responsibility of the new owner of the foreclosed property and are due and payable with the updated registration.
- (i) If the property is not registered and the registration fee is not paid within thirty (30) days of when the registration is required pursuant to this section, a late fee of \$50.00 per property shall be charged and shall be due and payable with the registration. This section shall apply to the initial registration and registrations required by subsequent owners of the defaulted mortgage and/or foreclosed property. Each period where the registration fee is late shall be assessed a late charge of \$50.00. Registrations delinquent greater than 30 days are subject to additional fines as described by Section 179.106(g) herein.

(j) This section shall also apply to properties that have been the subject of a foreclosure sale where title is transferred to the mortgagee as well as any properties transferred to the mortgagee under a deed in lieu of foreclosure or by any other legal means.

- (g) (k) Properties subject to this section shall remain subject to under the annual registration requirement, and the inspection, security, and maintenance standards of this section as long as they remain vacant or subject to having been declared by a mortgage to be the mortgage is under foreclosure or in default.
- (h) Any person or other legal entity that has registered a property under this ordinance must report any change of information contained in the registration within ten (10) days of the change.
- (i) (1) Failure of the mortgagee and/or property owner of record to properly register or to modify the registration from time to time to reflect a change of circumstances as required by this ordinance is a violation of this chapter and shall be subject to enforcement by any of the enforcement means available to the City of Jacksonville.
- (j) (m) Pursuant to any judicial finding and determination that any property is in violation of this chapter the City may take the necessary action to ensure compliance with and place a lien on the property for the cost of the work performed to benefit the property and to bring it into compliance.

Sec. 179.106. Security requirements.

- (a) Properties subject to this Chapter shall be maintained in a secure manner so as not to be accessible to unauthorized persons.
- (b) A "secure manner" shall include, but not be limited to, the closure and locking of windows, doors, gates and other openings of such size that may allow a child or adult to access the interior

 of the property and/or structure. Broken windows shall be secured by reglazing or boarding.

- (c) If a mortgage on a property is in default, and the property has become vacant or abandoned, a local property manager Local Agent shall be designated by the mortgagee to perform the work necessary to bring the property into compliance with the code of ordinances and the local property manager Local Agent must perform regular inspections to verify compliance with the requirements of this section, and any other applicable laws or ordinances of the City of Jacksonville.
- (d) When a property subject to this Chapter becomes vacant or abandoned, it shall be posted with the name and twenty four (24) hour contact telephone number of the local property manager Local Agent. The sign shall be placed in a window facing the street and shall be visible from the street. The posting shall be no less than 18 inches x 24 inches and shall be of a font that is legible from a distance of 45 feet. The posting shall contain the following language with supporting information:

THIS PROPERTY IS MANAGED BY

AND IS INSPECTED ON A REGULAR BASIS.

THE PROPERTY MANAGER CAN BE CONTACTED

BY TELEPHONE AT

OR BY EMAIL AT

(e) The posting required in subsection (d) above shall be placed on the interior of a window facing the street to the front of the property so that it is visible from the street, or secured to the exterior of the building/structure facing the street to the front of the property so that it is visible from the street or if no such area exists, on a stake of sufficient size to support the posting in a location that is at all times visible from the street to the front of the property but not readily accessible to vandals.

Exterior posting shall be constructed of and printed with weatherresistant materials.

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- (f) Failure of the mortgagee and/or property owner of record to properly inspect and secure a property subject to this Chapter, and post and maintain the signage noted in this section, is unlawful and a Class C violation and shall be subject to enforcement by any of the enforcement means available to the City of Jacksonville. Pursuant to a finding and determination, the City of Jacksonville may take the necessary action to ensure compliance with this section, and recover costs and expenses in support thereof.
- Failure of the mortgagee to register a property pursuant to this Chapter shall authorize the City to impose a civil penalty in the amount of \$500.00 against the mortgagee for each offense. Upon written notice of noncompliance from the City or its designee, the mortgagee shall have 20 days from the date of the notice of noncompliance to pay the registration fee and any additional fees (such as any late fee or update fee noted within the letter of noncompliance). If the mortgagee fails to timely make these payments within the time allotted above, the \$500.00 civil penalty shall be imposed upon mortgagee and shall be payable to the City of Jacksonville within 15 days of receipt of notice of delinquent payment, along with any other registration fees which have not been paid by that date. The provisions of this section are cumulative with and in addition to other available remedies. Moreover, the Housing and Community Development Division Staff of the Planning and Development Department is authorized and empowered to refer the Notice of Noncompliance to the City Code Enforcement Special Magistrate for disposition.

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Sec. 179.110. Adoption of policy and rules and regulations; declaration of municipal purpose.

Subject to the review and approval of City Council, the Housing and Community Development Division of the Planning and Development Department is authorized and empowered to adopt any policies, rules and regulations necessary, and expend funds as may be reasonably necessary and available to carry out the terms of this Chapter, the expenditure of such funds having been declared a proper public purpose herein.

Sec. 179.111. Expenditure of funds; monitoring and compliance.

The City fee collected for Foreclosed Land Registry shall be deposited in sub fund 1N1. Council shall authorize all appropriations from the sub fund. The Planning and Development Department, where Housing and Community Development operates, shall commit to tracking expenses through a tiered strategy system policy, adopted by City Council, and shall concurrently submit annual reports to the Council Auditor's Office and the Finance Committee. The expenditures from the Foreclosed Land Registry shall be tracked allocating those funds to show how the funds were requested, issued, and used in relation to the tiered strategy policy and personnel. Such detail shall be in accordance with instructions provided by the Council Auditor's Office. The annual reporting of activity will provide the ability to substantiate the appropriate use of the Foreclosed Land Registry fees in all years going forward as of October 1, 2015 with the first report made available sixty days after fiscal year end.

Section 179.112. Auditing Rights; Inspection of Books and Records; Monthly and Annual Reports.

If the City selects a vendor to administer the provisions of

this Chapter through a contractual arrangement, the following auditing provisions shall apply to the selected vendor and shall be included in the contract with the vendor. The Planning and Development Department, where Housing and Community Development operates, and the City Council Auditors, shall have the right, during normal business hours, to enter the vendor's business property, upon reasonable prior notice, to inspect the operations and facilities of the vendor and to audit, inspect and examine the vendor's books and records and state and federal tax returns, insofar as they relate to compliance with the contractual provisions, this Chapter and any rules adopted by the Planning and Development Department pursuant hereto. This information shall include, but not be limited to, the following: billing rates, billing amounts, accounts receivable and list of accounts. Additionally, the City Council Auditors may communicate directly with customers (mortgagees in this case) for the purpose of confirming compliance with this Section. To the extent authorized by Section 119.165, Florida Statutes, or other applicable law, this information shall remain confidential. Refusal to permit inspection shall be cause for suspension or revocation of the vendor contract. The vendor shall deliver to the Planning and Development Department a true and correct monthly report of gross receipts generated during the previous month for all registrations, fees, and penalties within the City on or before the last day of each month. The vendor shall, on or before 90 days following the close of the City's fiscal year, deliver to the Planning and Development Department a statement of its annual gross receipts generated from accounts within the City reflecting gross receipts within the City for the preceding City fiscal year. The statement shall be audited by an independent certified public accountant licensed to do business in the state, and shall be accompanied by the certified

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> Section 3. Adoption of policy on expenditure of funds. The Housing & Community Development Division of the Planning and Development Department has established a policy for the expenditure of funds deposited in the Foreclosed Property Registry consistent with the purpose neighborhoods and communities inordinately impacted by the mortgage foreclosure crisis. properties in the registry and to reduce the devaluation of surrounding properties caused by deteriorating properties subject

to mortgage foreclosure. The City of Jacksonville hereby adopts 13 the policy created by the Housing and Community Development 14 15 Division attached hereto as Exhibit 1 and incorporated herein by 16 reference. This policy is subject to annual review by the Housing 17 Community Development Community Development Division determine that modifications to the 18 policy are necessary or recommended, the Housing and Community 19 Development Division shall file legislation through the Mayor's 20 Office to have such modifications to the policy adopted by the 21

Section 4. Review of registration fees and fees related to the foreclosed property registry. All fees related to Chapter 179 approved in this Ordinance shall be in effect for at least two (2) City budget fiscal years from the Effective Date of this Ordinance. This will provide time for the Housing and Community Development Division to determine if said fees are reasonable and appropriate, and in concert with the modifications to the Chapter. After the completion of two (2) City budget fiscal years, the

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Housing & Community Development Division of the Planning and Development Department shall internally review the fee structure provided for herein to assess the need to modify the fee structure. Following that review, which may be in conjunction with the submission of its annual budget proposal each year, the Housing & Community Development Division of the Planning and Development Department shall review the fee structure approved herein and make a recommendation in writing to the Council as to any changes to the fee structure, or may on its own directive, file legislation through the Mayor's Office to amend the fee structure.

Section 5. Severability. It is hereby declared to be the intention of the City Council of the City of Jacksonville that the sections, paragraphs, sentences, clauses and phrases of this ordinance are severable, and if any phrase, clause, sentence, paragraph or section of this ordinance shall be declared unconstitutional by the valid judgment or decree of a court of competent jurisdiction, such unconstitutionality shall not affect any of the remaining phrases, clauses, sentences, paragraphs and sections of this Ordinance.

Section 6. Effective Date. This ordinance shall become effective upon signature by the Mayor or upon becoming effective without the Mayor's signature.

Form Approved:

Office of General Counsel

Paix Hours

Legislation prepared by: Paige H. Johnston

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## HORSING VAD COMMINIA DEAEFORMENT DIVISION PLANNING AND DEVELORMENT DEPARTMENT

Where Florida Begins.

Revised: May 4, 2015

## Strategies and Uses of Foreclosure Registry Funds

Strategy 1: Directly Impact Properties on the Foreclosure Registry
Properties on the Registry
Funded at a minimum of 30% of the annually budgeted appropriation

Foreclosure Intervention – Provides direct cash assistance, up to \$8,500, to individuals and families who are in default or facing possible foreclosure action that meet the eligibility criterion.

- Foreclosure Mediation Provides consumer credit counseling and mediation services to eligible homeowners to prevent foreclosure actions through possible loan modification and/or other variable resolutions; including legal services not related to foreclosure litigation.
- Education brochures, including the creation, production and distribution of informational materials to assist with foreclosure prevention and foreclosure intervention. Promote the education and advertisement of the accomplishments of the vacant registry initiative.

Strategy 2: Neighborhood Development Strategy – Provide Services to Housing and Community Development Strategy – Provide Services to Residential Properties on the Registry

by Properties on the Registry

by Properties on the Registry

Tunded at a minimum of 40% of the annually budgeted appropriation

- Provide resources for community revitalization efforts such as mowing, board-up, demolition and other ancillary rehabilitation improvements of blighted private properties on or in proximity to homes on the foreclosure registry.
- Provide gap or construction financing to non-profit developers for the acquisition, rehabilitation and sale of vacant and/or REO homes in which the total development costs exceed the appraised value of the home.
- Batch Foreclosure
- Administrative funds to support staffing needs related to administering the Foreclosure Registry's programs.

Strategy 3: Community Development, Outreach and Education
Assistance to Neighborhoods and Organizations in which Foreclosure
Registry Properties are Located
Funded at a maximum of 20% of the annually budgeted appropriation

- Neighborhood Matching Grants Communities in neighborhoods with high foreclosure rates/blight could apply for funds up to \$5,000 for physical improvements in their communities. The funds awarded would be linked to what the neighborhoods could match in funds, donations and/or sweat equity. Some of the possible uses could be: 1) clean up graffiti, 2) repair and install new fencing, 3) replace or develop neighborhood identification or entrance signs, 4) community gardens, and 5) painting/landscaping of pre-selected homes in areas surrounding the properties on the vacant registry.
- CommUniverCity The CommUniverCity was a multi-week leadership training course
  that was offered to potential community leaders citywide. The goal of CommUniverCity
  was to teach skills that would establish and maintain successful neighborhood
  organizations.
- Communication/Educational Tools Create and develop communication and educational tools for outreach activities that can be used Citywide and/or in neighborhoods with high foreclosure rates which include, but are not limited to: neighborhood forums, foreclosure/housing educational fairs, a citywide newsletter (email and/or printed publications), newspaper advertisements, flyers and other promotional activities to inform residents of upcoming meetings and events in their community.

Contingency: 10% available to be appropriated to Strategy 1 or 2 funding need, or carried forward to fund balance.

#### ORDINANCE/BUDGETING EXAMPLE:

Measure of Fund balance determines Fiscal Year Available Funds = \$1,000,000 Council Approval required for the use of any part of Fiscal Year Available \$1,000,000

#### **Uses of Foreclosure Registry Funds**

Strategy 1 - Foreclosure Prevention Strategy minimum use = 30%	=\$300,000
Strategy 2 - Housing and Community Development Strategy minimum use = 40%	=\$400,000
Strategy 3 - Community Development, Outreach & Education maximum use = 20%	=\$200,000
Contingency funds available = 10% for Strategy 1 or 2 funding needs only	=\$100,000

#### **ORDINANCE 2015-340-E**

### CERTIFICATE OF AUTHENTICATION

ENACTED BY THE COUNCIL

June 09, 2015

Clay Goyborou of
CLAY YARAOROUGH
COUNCIL PRESIDENT

ATTEST:	APPROVED:
Charl S. Brown	
CHERYL L. PROWN	ALVIN BROWN, MAYOR
COUNCIL SECRETARY	



I HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing Ordinance was delivered to the Mayor

for approval or rejection on June 11, 2015.

The bill BECAME EFFECTIVE without the Mayor's signature on June 23, 2015.

ATTEST:

CHERYL LUROWN
COUNCIL SECRETARY

