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Board Number 131
Introduced by Alderwoman Pamela Boya
November 15, 2021

This Board Bill is recommended by the Board of Estimate and Apportionment appropriating a portion of funds received under the settlement agreement reached with the National Football League and the Los Angeles Rams. It authorizes certain expenditures of such funds, to the extent received, to support reinvestment in and disinvested neighborhoods, including North and Southeast St. Louis, meeting certain thresholds under the Economic Justice Index; directs the investment of funds while agency program and plan for necessary expenditures consistent with the Board Bill; provides that the City shall seek a return on any funds used for real estate rehabilitation projects in disinvested areas; and authorizes contracts and other documents to expend the funds, to the extent received. It contains a severability clause and contains an emergency clause.

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#001

Posted by **Les Sterman** on **11/22/2024** at **11:07am** [Comment ID: 100] - [Link](#)

Endorsement

Agree: 1, Disagree: -1

I endorse this bill. It makes the most sense to make a large meaningful investment now, partially matched by the private sector. The alternative of creating an endowment is not likely to attract private investment, will produce declining returns as interest rates fall in the future, and those returns are likely to be absorbed in future city budget as our financial position worsens once recent financial windfalls are gone. I completely agree with others that city services must significantly improve as a requisite for future growth, but that is largely a matter of better management and other non-financial factors, rather than funding. The Board of Aldermen has dithered with this decision for too long already and has relied on a process that is unscientific and open to manipulation and bias. It's time to make a decision and BB 131 is a credible and sensible approach to investing in the City.

Reply by **Frank Hamsher** on **11/22/2024** at **11:16am** [Comment ID: 102] - [Link](#)

Endorsement

Agree: 0, Disagree: 0

I believe it's time to make major investments in downtown and in struggling neighborhoods. This bill is a good way to do that.

#002

Posted by **Michael Konzen** on **11/24/2024** at **9:35am** [Comment ID: 118] - [Link](#)

Endorsement

Agree: 1, Disagree: 0

I endorse this bill. Downtown is critical to our City and entire region, and this is key to Downtown's future. Northside needs this investment now.

#003

Posted by **Easton Rosen** on **11/22/2024** at **11:26am** [Comment ID: 104] - [Link](#)

Endorsement

Agree: 0, Disagree: 0

Investing in North St. Louis and Southeast St. Louis seems like a great way to expand inclusive economic growth and housing. It is also crucial to invest in the most utilized and profitable neighborhood in the region: Downtown. Investment in Downtown can spur greater activity, which is necessary as the neighborhood currently has capacity for so much more daily activity.

#004

Posted by **Dr. Francis Onukwue** on **11/23/2024** at **10:26am** [Comment ID: 115] - [Link](#)

Endorsement

Agree: 0, Disagree: 0

Dr. Francis Onukwue, President of Hi-Tech Charities, and member of the Good Neighbor Partnership & Collaboration support the Board Bill Number 131 Introduced by Alderwoman Pamela Boyd.

For questions or additional information, please call Dr. Francis Onukwue at 314-922-7139.

#005

Posted by **Marcus Birk** on **11/19/2024** at **7:24pm** [Comment ID: 76] - [Link](#)

Concern

Agree: 1, Disagree: 0

I fear this method of trying to provide feedback is not going to be productive with capturing the citizens primary points. It is hard to navigate, will not produce quantifiable and measurable results by having free form comment sections randomly throughout the document. Another way of reacting to this bill would be much more fruitful.

Reply by **Cristina Garmendia** on **11/19/2024** at **8:54pm** [Comment ID: 79] - [Link](#)

Answer

Agree: 0, Disagree: -1

Hi Marcus, thanks for your feedback. There will be report of feedback published on December 2, which may provide some of the themes and measurable results you are looking for. I have a better view on the administrative end of this tool with a list of comments that I may recommend the development team on this platform adapt for public viewing.

We are trying out this method of feedback for the first time in addition to our usual tools, which include having a public hearing where spoken testimony and written comment are accepted. You should also share your feedback with your alderperson so they can ask questions on your behalf during hearings.

#006

Posted by **Jonathan Ferry** on **11/22/2024** at **11:52am** [Comment ID: 105] - [Link](#)

Concern

Agree: 4, Disagree: 0

This bill is poorly structured in large part because it lacks any credible details for how the funds will be injected into the various categories identified for investment. For example, the \$85 million for "rehabilitation of decayed, high-impact buildings" - will that be injected as equity, as a loan, through a master tenancy agreement? Who will own the buildings that receive this investment? What if the cost to redevelop the buildings identified exceeds the amount allocated? Is the city going to take out a loan to fund the remainder? Will they put additional equity in from other revenue sources? The devil is in the details, and the details are woefully lacking.

As for the money allocated for infrastructure - there are better ways to get more bang for the buck here, rather than just putting the money directly into

infrastructure. For example, infrastructure improvements can be tied to tax incentive districts, whether they be TIF, CID, NID, etc. A portion of the Rams fund could be placed into an Infrastructure Reserve Fund and the money can be lent from this fund to make these infrastructure improvements, at interest rates that are far lower than what TIF notes generally pay. Then, the Infrastructure Funds can be repaid through collections from the taxing districts. By structuring it this way, the city gets a better idea of whether the investment into infrastructure is actually generating a fiscal benefit that justifies the investment. It also allows for better alignment of other private and public sector investment to help ensure that the city achieves the growth targets that it needs to meet in order to achieve financial sustainability.

As such, in its current form, I would have to vote against Board Bill Number 131. The lack of specificity and detail as for how these investments will be structured makes this bill very dangerous, in my opinion.

If the city wants to have one board bill that generally allocates the buckets in which funding will be allocated, that is one thing. But there need to be separate, much more detailed bills, much like Redevelopment Agreements, which specifically spell out how the funds will be spent, and what the mechanism will be for measuring the return on investment.

#007

Posted by **Michael Miller** on **11/19/2024** at **12:44pm** [Comment ID: 51] - [Link](#)

Suggestion

Agree: 6, Disagree: -3

Frankly, I don't want to hear or read another word about spending the Rams money until we can, once and for all, figure out how to deliver basic services in this city. As I type this, I'm looking at an overflowing alley trash bin that was supposed to be collected yesterday. Unacceptable!

Reply by **Anonymous** on **11/19/2024** at **6:15pm** [Comment ID: 65] - [Link](#)

Suggestion

Agree: 3, Disagree: 0

Completely agree. Fix the streets, sidewalks, and alleys, buy trash trucks, staff SLMPD, improve the still-broken 911 system, and then we can talk about the other things in this bill.

#008

Posted by **Michael Blatz** on **11/22/2024** at **1:06pm** [Comment ID: 106] - [Link](#)

Endorsement

Agree: 0, Disagree: 0

These improvements proposed will be a major step towards making our city a place that attracts business and residents alike. Endorsed.

#009

Posted by **Shannon Keller** on **11/29/2024** at **12:58pm** [Comment ID: 142] - [Link](#)

Endorsement

Agree: 0, Disagree: 0

Passing this bill is critical to the future of Downtown, St. Louis, and the region. Please do not miss this opportunity to make a difference in the future of St. Louis.

#010

Posted by **Steve Fuchs** on **11/24/2024** at **5:58pm** [Comment ID: 120] - [Link](#)

Endorsement

Agree: 0, Disagree: 0

I fully endorse this proposal. It is imperative that St Louis City allocate these dollars to provide more affordable housing for all residents.

#011

Posted by **Margaret McDonald** on **11/23/2024** at **7:47am** [Comment ID: 113] - [Link](#)

Endorsement

Agree: 0, Disagree: 0

I support Bill 131

#012

Posted by **Les Sterman** on **11/26/2024** at **9:43pm** [Comment ID: 137] - [Link](#)

Endorsement

Agree: 0, Disagree: 0

Much has been made of the suggestion that Rams settlement funds should be used for purposes that are “transformational”. To meet that goal, it is important that the funds be leveraged in a way that contributes to long-term, sustainable improvements in the economic and social well-being of City residents, and/or in improving fundamental conditions in distressed city neighborhoods (including downtown) that will contribute to continuing economic growth. These one-time funds should not be used to fund recurring expenses that only offer temporary benefits and will create future financial obligations that the City cannot possibly meet.

Board Bill 131 is intended to be a framework for committing the Rams settlement money, rather than a blueprint for the processes by which ensuing decisions regarding expenditures would be made and the money would be administered. It serves as a conceptual alternative to the as-yet to be revealed but much discussed idea to create an endowment with the funds. In the case of the endowment, funds will be disbursed in relatively small amounts over many years, and nothing has been revealed about how decisions would be made far into the future. And nothing about the endowment proposal suggests that it remotely meets the definition of “transformational”.

BB 131 provides the conceptual framework for investments in the City that meet the definition of “transformative” far better than any of the other “plans” that have been

suggested. We now need to work together to use that framework to structure a plan that is truly “transformative” and provides the kind of transparency, effective decision-making and accountability that has been recently lacking in city government.

#013

Posted by **Bridget hoy** on **11/29/2024** at **2:58pm** [Comment ID: 144] - [Link](#)

Endorsement

Agree: 0, Disagree: 0

100% support for this Bill, as absolutely necessary to keep people working and visiting downtown. Full support.

#014

Posted by **Richard Walsh** on **11/29/2024** at **2:13pm** [Comment ID: 143] - [Link](#)

Endorsement

Agree: 0, Disagree: 0

I strongly support the bill. As the key to growing the entire City, downtown needs substantial support now to reverse businesses moving out of the City. Disinvested areas need support now.

#015

Posted by **Sharon Shamin** on **11/19/2024** at **12:12pm** [Comment ID: 36] - [Link](#)

Endorsement

Agree: 1, Disagree: -2

Endorsement

#016

Posted by **Alex Bakken** on **12/01/2024** at **2:03pm** [Comment ID: 155] - [Link](#)

Agree: 0, Disagree: 0

City residents have waited long enough. Invest in Downtown STL.

#017

Posted by **Chris Draper** on **11/22/2024** at **11:00am** [Comment ID: 98] - [Link](#)

Concern

Agree: 2, Disagree: 0

Has north city been underinvested and ignored for TOO long? YES. Do the people of the city trust a few alders to take this incredible windfall and simply throw it at the wall? NO. Specifically, what projects would this fund? These numbers are big and round which is great, but there is no reasonable need to throw this much of the Rams settlement at projects that are not ready to go. We have ARPA funds that need to be allowed and spent now -- why the sudden urgency to spend this money when there is no meaningful plan behind this bill and, especially, because there is no timetable by

which we must spend these funds? This feels like a disingenuous push to spend money fast, under a terrific guise (I want nothing more than the city to work like a real, functional city) that lacks one modicum of specifics? I cannot support such a wishy washy idea at this time.

#018

Posted by **Tim Bryant** on **11/26/2024** at **5:07pm** [Comment ID: 136] - [Link](#)

Endorsement

Agree: 0, Disagree: 0

Please support BB131. More than most areas of the city, downtown benefits from investment. Money invested downtown has a multiplier effect because new projects clustered in a relatively small area attract additional investment, visitors, residents and jobs.

#019

Posted by **Sara Couch** on **11/30/2024** at **9:46am** [Comment ID: 148] - [Link](#)

Concern

Agree: 0, Disagree: 0

Save this money and use the interest on investing in North City for infrastructure, businesses, and safety.

#020

Posted by **Michael O'Brien** on **11/25/2024** at **3:31pm** [Comment ID: 129] - [Link](#)

Endorsement

Agree: 0, Disagree: 0

I wholeheartedly approve of this proposed legislation. It's high time we stop the infighting and take action to help move the City forward. Let's not look a gift horse in the mouth. We won the lottery here. Let's put these funds to work for the community as soon as possible! The longer we wait, the farther we fall behind.

#021

Posted by **Charles Williams** on **11/22/2024** at **1:24pm** [Comment ID: 107] - [Link](#)

Endorsement

Agree: 0, Disagree: 0

I fully endorse this board bill.

#022

Posted by **Dawn Walter** on **11/20/2024** at **8:01pm** [Comment ID: 93] - [Link](#)

Concern

Agree: 0, Disagree: -1

This bill ignores the long-term investment that the City will need to make over the next few years (water infrastructure and lead pipes) as well as the need to pay city

employees better to be able to compete for employees. Both initiatives will require long-term funding which can be achieved through setting up an endowment with the Rams settlement. Not all of the Rams settlement needs to go towards the endowment but spending it all now is short-sighted and will only harm the city down the line.

#023

Posted by **genera Moore** on **11/29/2024** at **11:14am** [Comment ID: 141] - [Link](#)

Agree: 0, Disagree: 0

I hope the bill goes through its much needed

#024

Posted by **Sam Zelch** on **11/22/2024** at **10:54am** [Comment ID: 97] - [Link](#)

Endorsement

Agree: 1, Disagree: 0

There can be no better use of these funds then to spend it on ways that will bring life and energy back to downtown. Other cities in far worse shape than St. Louis have proven that with concentrated commitment and investment, the urban core of a city can thrive. Neglect it, and it withers until it dies.

#025

Posted by **Michelle Robinson** on **11/22/2024** at **11:05am** [Comment ID: 99] - [Link](#)

Suggestion

Agree: 1, Disagree: 0

Though other suggested use of the monies are valid concerns, they should be secondary. Downtown and North St. Louis City should be the primary focus. Downtown: We need more police, armed security and increased pay for those persons. We need to offer incentives for them to live downtown and also pay for mandatory sensitivity training (DEI, mental health, drug addiction and the unhoused). We need funding to board up eyesores or convert them to art spaces; we need to offer incentives to those like myself who bought or lease a loft downtown (we need parking incentives, discounted restaurant cards, etc.). We are trying to impact change and we pay more to live within 4th-18th street corridor which makes no sense. Build tiny homes for the unhoused or multiple spread out shelters so we can diffuse the downtown concentration. Or, transform an abandoned St. Louis Public School to house the unhoused. North City: I grew up there and aside from a few advances, it's neglected. We need to build a wall on highway 70 to hide the dilapidated buildings or do something about the dilapidated buildings...make them food farms for food insecurity in North City, art spaces, something. Bring back \$1 homes!!!! Teach people to fish! We have a shortage of housing. Allow people to purchase empty home/lots and give them a stipend to fix up this land. It's a win/win for all involved. Use the money to help train the unemployed or underemployed North City residents for blue collar roles where they can earn a living wage (plumbing, welding, HVAC, etc). We have a shortage of skilled laborers. This again

is a win/win for all. Build a new drug rehab facility. We have a shortage of bed availability. All of this helps the entire community.

#026

Posted by **Dan Pistor** on **11/30/2024** at **11:14am** [Comment ID: 150] - [Link](#)

Endorsement

Agree: 0, Disagree: 0

We endorse that the Rams Settlement funds are used for Downtown

#027

Posted by **Susi Blatz** on **11/25/2024** at **2:34pm** [Comment ID: 127] - [Link](#)

Endorsement

Agree: 0, Disagree: 0

I fully support this bill utilizing the funds for improvements to the city as a whole, especially downtown. The money needs to be spent to make St. Louis safer and allow it to become a destination city. Tourism/new business/new resident dollars will then raise the city's income permanently allowing for other investments in the city. These funds should not be spent on specific demographics (ex: housing). It should be to improve the city as a whole. I do, however, feel the funds should not be invested in city areas that have not responded well to investment in the past. Money should be spent on the areas that will give us the most bang for the buck. Bring in those new sources of revenue and more challenged areas can then be addressed.

#028

Posted by **Jill Buehler** on **11/19/2024** at **11:25am** [Comment ID: 18] - [Link](#)

Suggestion

Agree: 6, Disagree: -9

The money should be distributed throughout the city. Dumping all the money into North St Louis is not fair to all city residents. Unless they can do something about the crime they money would be wasted there.

Reply by **Alex Potter** on **11/19/2024** at **11:56am** [Comment ID: 27] - [Link](#)

Concern

Agree: 9, Disagree: -1

I agree that funds should be spread throughout the City, not just in certain neighborhoods. I do think investment in downtown and its infrastructure needs to be the top priority, though. I also think investment in disadvantaged neighborhoods is important, but we cannot completely ignore 'stable' neighborhoods like the Forest Park Southeast, Tower Grove, etc. There are many, many needs there, too, and a failing to address those needs does nothing to ensure the long-term stability and continued improvement of those areas.

Reply by **Maria C.** on **11/19/2024** at **6:20pm** [Comment ID: 67] - [Link](#)

Concern

Agree: 1, Disagree: -1

Yup. Been staring at piles of trash dumped in the alley behind my house in Forest Park Southeast for weeks and the same falling-down houses and overgrown lots for 4 years. The sidewalks are in horrific shape. And I wish I was joking when I say I was walking my dog in Chouteau Park (which completely lacks adequate lighting, BTW) shortly after 5pm tonight when multiple shots were fired at the corner of Chouteau and Newstead.

Reply by **Maria C.** on **11/19/2024** at **6:22pm** [Comment ID: 68] - [Link](#)

Agree: 3, Disagree: -1

Also, been over an hour and still have yet to see a police car so much as drive by the area of the shooting...because they have a massive officer shortage. So sick of this.

Reply by **Kevin** on **11/25/2024** at **9:54am** [Comment ID: 123] - [Link](#)

Suggestion

Agree: 0, Disagree: 0

Spreading around funds everywhere implies equality not equity. There needs to be a large focus on disinvested neighborhoods first.

#029

Posted by **Mary Jo Gorman** on **11/22/2024** at **4:06pm** [Comment ID: 110] - [Link](#)

Endorsement

Agree: 0, Disagree: 0

I support this bill. We need to invest in Downtown to generate more tax revenue to support the services the city needs. A big expenditure is needed to turn the tide. The neighborhood investments serve us all in the end.

#030

Posted by **RL Nix** on **11/24/2024** at **6:39pm** [Comment ID: 121] - [Link](#)

Endorsement

Agree: 0, Disagree: 0

I am in favor of the Greater Saint Louis use of the Rams Settlement.

#031

Posted by **Matthew Naglich** on **11/19/2024** at **11:45am** [Comment ID: 23] - [Link](#)

Endorsement

Agree: 0, Disagree: -2

I like that this bill would invest the money directly in our City immediately, instead of only sending interest.

#032

Posted by **Eva France** on **11/26/2024** at **2:49pm** [Comment ID: 135] - [Link](#)

Endorsement

Agree: 0, Disagree: 0

I endorse this bill!

#033

Posted by **Grace Teofilo** on **11/25/2024** at **12:22pm** [Comment ID: 124] - [Link](#)

Endorsement

Agree: 0, Disagree: 0

I am providing my endorsement for this bill! Downtown is the economic engine of our region. Supporting downtown will support the greater St. Louis region and lift the needs of the whole city. My belief is that we have a once in a generation opportunity to use these public dollars to turn the tide for Downtown. It is critical that these funds are obligated to Downtown to leverage the past, present, and future private dollars by our organizations and others that care about our city and region.

#034

Posted by **Arthurine Harris** on **11/19/2024** at **6:20pm** [Comment ID: 66] - [Link](#)

Concern

Agree: 1, Disagree: 0

Why does the City of St. Louis need to seek a return on investments made into neighborhoods that have been historically *disinvested* in?? Sometimes the return on investment is a safer and more inhabitable city.

#035

Posted by **Ryan McClure** on **11/24/2024** at **10:55am** [Comment ID: 119] - [Link](#)

Endorsement

Agree: 0, Disagree: 0

Downtown is the economic engine of not just St. Louis City, but the entire metropolitan region. We have a once in a generation opportunity to invest in that engine and leverage private dollars to increase that impact. Strongly endorse.

#036

Posted by **Valeri Calhoun** on **11/19/2024** at **11:02am** [Comment ID: 11] - [Link](#)

Concern

Agree: 5, Disagree: -4

First, I do not approve of selective spending on certain neighborhoods. And there has been consistent spending in these areas and they continue to have problems. I think until you get the crime under control, people will continue to avoid downtown and the areas you want to spend money. The crime needs to change!

#037

Posted by **Daniel Tobben** on **11/28/2024** at **5:59am** [Comment ID: 140] - [Link](#)

Suggestion

Agree: 0, Disagree: 0

Overall I am in favor. Downtown needs to be the economic engine of the city. Partner with Greater St Louis regarding this. Fix infrastructure everywhere, not just disinvested areas. However, provide additional assistance to disinvested areas beyond infrastructure.

Focus more on the area around the National Geospatial Intelligence center. It was disinvested, but now presents a great development opportunity. DO WHATEVER is necessary to resolve the Paul McKee situation—that could be aggressive litigation, it could be by a settlement or a partnering. But DO WHATEVER it takes to get that situation improved, so development can occur, and spending part of the Rams settlement money could certainly be part of that.

Dan Tobben

#038

Posted by **Joel Weeks** on **11/29/2024** at **3:02pm** [Comment ID: 145] - [Link](#)

Endorsement

Agree: 0, Disagree: 0

I support Bill 131 and investment in the City of St. Louis.

#039

Posted by **Jonathan Ferry** on **11/26/2024** at **11:55pm** [Comment ID: 138] - [Link](#)

Suggestion

Agree: 2, Disagree: 0

If the objective of BB131 is to determine a blueprint or framework in order to establish general objectives and strategies for the fund, with details to be hammered out later, then as it stands, BB 131 needs to be rewritten.

The problem with the board bill is that it creates a very unstructured, yet still defined process for managing the spending through the Board of Public Service, and gives the President of said board all discretion in the disbursement of funds. Yet, it gives no direction to that office on how to inject the capital into projects, or what metrics should be used to measure effectiveness, nor any means of ensuring that funds are recycled so that they can become force multipliers over time.

Instead, the board bill leaves it up to the discretion of one person. This is a recipe for disaster. If the goal is to provide a framework, then the BB should be rewritten to establish subsidiary funds (such as for downtown infrastructure or downtown building rehab), but then prescribe a process for establishing detailed strategies, objectives and measures for evaluating success that must be approved separately in future bills or redevelopment agreements before capital is actually disbursed from the fund.

This is essential.

#040

Posted by **David Austin** on **11/25/2024** at **4:43pm** [Comment ID: 134] - [Link](#)

Endorsement

Agree: 0, Disagree: 0

It's time that our City leadership shows some real leadership on this subject and puts the funds to work. Without a reputable downtown engine, our city and region will continue to underperform its potential. Let's do this!

#041

Posted by **Jim Hill** on **11/25/2024** at **1:44pm** [Comment ID: 126] - [Link](#)

Endorsement

Agree: 0, Disagree: 0

I support this bill. It is imperative that we invest in downtown especially with matching funds coming from the private sector. Would like to see some incentives for major employers to relocate downtown.

#042

Posted by **Dennis Hogenmiller** on **11/20/2024** at **10:27pm** [Comment ID: 94] - [Link](#)

Concern

Agree: 2, Disagree: 0

Why spend all the money in a year (estimate). Why not leave the money in a money market collecting interest every quarter. You will have a quarterly interest windfall to use on important issues. The interest will be available every 3 months to use. The money is always there. Interest every quarter for emergencies. If you use all the money, what is the city going to fall on to fix anything or issue?

#043

Posted by **Michael Allen** on **11/25/2024** at **9:04am** [Comment ID: 122] - [Link](#)

Endorsement

Agree: 0, Disagree: 0

I fully endorse this bill. Investing in our Downtown is pivotal to the future of St. Louis.

#044

Posted by **William Bolster** on **11/29/2024** at **3:30pm** [Comment ID: 146] - [Link](#)

Endorsement

Agree: 0, Disagree: 0

I have worked downtown for 27 years. In that time, the downtown area has steadily declined. The Rams settlement provides an opportunity to draw business and visitors back to downtown as well as invest in the disinvested neighborhoods in the City. I support and urge the Board to pass legislation proposed by Ald. Pam Boyd that provides for investment in Downtown (\$100M) and disinvested neighborhoods (\$130M).

**BOARD BILL NUMBER 131 INTRODUCED BY ALDERWOMAN PAMELA BOYD
COSPONSORS: ALDERWOMAN LAURA KEYS/ 048 BERMAN TOM OLDENBURG/
ALDERWOMAN CARA SPENCER**

1 An ordinance recommended by the Board of Estimate and Apportionment appropriating a
2 portion of funds received under a settlement agreement stemming from a lawsuit among the City,
3 the Regional Convention and Sports Complex Authority, the Los Angeles Rams, the National 049
4 Football League, and other parties, authorizing certain expenditures of such funds, to the extent 046
5 received, in order to invest in downtown and disinvested neighborhoods in St. Louis, including
6 North and Southeast St. Louis; authorizing contracts and other documents to expend the funds, to
7 the extent received; containing a severability clause; and containing an emergency clause.

8 **WHEREAS**, the City of St. Louis, as part of the settlement of a lawsuit among the City,
9 the Regional Convention and Sports Complex Authority, the Los Angeles Rams, the National 047
10 Football League, and other parties, has received about Two Hundred Eighty Million Dollars
11 (\$280,000,000) in funds (the “Settlement Funds”) from the Regional Convention and Sports
12 Complex Authority (the “Authority”); and

13 **WHEREAS**, the City of St. Louis previously appropriated, pursuant to an agreement
14 among the City, St. Louis County, and the Authority and pursuant to Ordinance 71645, Thirty 045
15 Million Dollars (\$30,000,000) of the Settlement Funds to supplement the funds available from the
16 proceeds of the St. Louis Municipal Finance Corporation Leasehold Revenue Bonds, Series 2020
17 (Convention Center Expansion and Improvement Projects) (the “2020 Convention Center Bonds”)
18 and bonds issued by St. Louis County to expand and improve the Cervantes Convention Center
19 owned by the City; and

#045

Posted by **Brian Armstrong** on **11/22/2024** at **7:11am** [Comment ID: 96] - [Link](#)

Suggestion

Agree: 0, Disagree: 0

It would be great if we reinvest our fund to repair out water pipes that flow throughout the city and not run into 90yrs pipes bursting and contaminating our water. For crime, we need to invest in our community focusing on what causes the crime. Remember police are reactive and we need to invest in our group that is proactive

#046

Posted by **Edward Alsop** on **11/21/2024** at **7:05pm** [Comment ID: 95] - [Link](#)

Concern

Agree: 0, Disagree: 0

Based on recent allocation of funds by the SLDC I'm concerned the same issues will occur, that is, providing funding for projects that lack credibility and qualifications to receive funding much less manage the funds with any accountability. In the long run I'm concerned funds will not be properly accounted for or used as intended without loss due to incompetence and theft.

#047

Posted by **Jim Ladd** on **11/22/2024** at **2:34pm** [Comment ID: 109] - [Link](#)

Endorsement

Agree: 0, Disagree: 0

I fully support the concept of this bill; the downtown area certainly needs attention and the neighborhoods on both the north and southeast sides can benefit as well. I would like to hear more about specific projects that this bill would target. In addition, I would like to hear more information from Greater STL about the proposed match from downtown stakeholders to double the amount of funds available to tackle specific projects downtown.

#048

Posted by **Nicholas Freed** on **11/19/2024** at **11:03am** [Comment ID: 12] - [Link](#)

Concern

Agree: 7, Disagree: -6

I don't trust Greater St. Louis Inc for a second to have the interest of the citizens of St. Louis top of mind. Their lack of transparency and oversight from anyone makes the organization a liability, and anyone not pushing for more transparency is suspect. Until such a time that transparency and oversight is discussed, St. Louisans shouldn't trust Greater St. Louis Inc to do what's best for citizens.

Reply by **Nicholas Freed** on **11/20/2024** at **12:21pm** [Comment ID: 86] - [Link](#)

Concern

Agree: 0, Disagree: 0

The bill is exactly what GSL proposed and wants to happen. These alderman are just presenting what GSL wants them to.

#049

Posted by **Jaime Staengel** on **11/22/2024** at **9:50pm** [Comment ID: 112] - [Link](#)

Endorsement

Agree: 0, Disagree: 0

Endorsement - there are other phases in the process before anything is finalized to add more specifics but please, listen to business leaders and citizens and take action now with this bill. Give people like the Wall Street Journal something positive to write about instead of a downtown doom loop, we have the chance to change the narrative with future headlines like "\$232M investment in St. Louis". It would make both those outside and in St. Louis take ourselves serious in a turn-around and hopefully, drive economic growth for the region in the process.

1 **WHEREAS**, the remaining Two Hundred Fifty Million Dollars (\$250,000,000) in
2 Settlement Funds have grown, through investment overseen by the City’s Treasurer, and now total
3 approximately Two Hundred Seventy Million Dollars (\$270,000,000); and

4 **WHEREAS**, the loss of a National Football League franchise in the City of St. Louis has
5 negatively impacted commerce, including employment, in downtown St. Louis and the region; and

6 **WHEREAS**, the successful lawsuit that led to the City receiving the Settlement Funds
7 presents a vital opportunity to support needed infrastructure investments down⁰⁵³ and needed
8 investments throughout the City’s disinvested neighborhoods; and⁰⁵²

9 **WHEREAS**, a summary of the appropriations made by this ordinance are contained
10 **Exhibit A** to this Ordinance; and

11 **WHEREAS**, there is an immediate and urgent need to meet the City and its people’s needs
12 for infrastructure, growth, and renewal as quickly and effectively as possible; and

13 **WHEREAS**, this Ordinance is recommended by the Board of Estimate and
14 Apportionment.

15 **BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY OF ST. LOUIS AS FOLLOWS:**

⁰⁵⁰ **SECTION ONE.** Disinvested neighborhoods infrastructure repairs. There is hereby
17 appropriated the sum of Twenty Million Dollars (\$20,000,000.00) of the Settlement Funds to the
18 Board of Public Service. The President of the Board of Public Service, or his or her designee, is
19 hereby authorized to make, negotiate, and execute any and all contracts or other documents on
20 behalf of the City to expend such funds, and to expend such funds on behalf of the City for repairs
21 to infrastructure in areas that received an Economic Justice Index Composite Score of 4⁰⁵⁴ or

#050

Posted by **Cathy Ebbesmeyer** on **11/23/2024** at **4:00pm** [Comment ID: 116] - [Link](#)

Question

Agree: 0, Disagree: 0

Infrastructure repairs were ranked #1 by the respondents. Sections 2 and 3 seem to be duplicates and allocate a total that exceeds the infrastructure repairs. Can more details be provided related to sections 2 and 3?

#051

Posted by **Suzanne Chisum** on **11/19/2024** at **12:20pm** [Comment ID: 40] - [Link](#)

Question

Agree: 2, Disagree: -1

How is disinvested neighborhoods defined? I live in a large neighborhood, but only a section of it has an economic justice index of 40.6 or higher. Will funding be available for the whole neighborhood, or only that specific part?

Reply by **Benjamin** on **11/19/2024** at **6:25pm** [Comment ID: 69] - [Link](#)

Question

Agree: 0, Disagree: 0

From the EJI website
(<https://www.economicjusticestl.org/economic-justice-index>):

- Was the area "redlined" according to the Home Owners' Loan Corporation maps?
- Does the area contain a high number of unoccupied lots?
- Is the unemployment rate high?
- Are the residents predominantly Black?
- Is the area in a HUD Qualified Census Tract?

#052

Posted by **Dan Pate** on **11/19/2024** at **6:57pm** [Comment ID: 75] - [Link](#)

Concern

Agree: 4, Disagree: -1

Dumping all of the or any significant amount of money into downtown is contrary to what SLDC has outlined in the Economic Justice Action Plan. Downtown is an EJ5...where the plan says to NOT focus millions of dollars in cash but to instead work on workforce training and AFFORDABLE housing. "EJI-5 areas include much of Southwest City, Souldard, and Downtown. These areas were shown to have lower need and both historically and currently are supported through traditional lending. Encouraging jobs, supporting workforce development, small-business ownership, and ensuring affordable housing should be the focus of SLDC in these parts of the City. SLDC should also seek to support key catalytic projects in these areas that will spur additional private investment (i.e. AT&T Building in Downtown St. Louis)." --from the plan document itself.

#053

Posted by **Alex Potter** on **11/19/2024** at **12:01pm** [Comment ID: 28] - [Link](#)

Suggestion

Agree: 3, Disagree: -6

Side note: It would be great to see how a piece of the funds could be used to help get the WNBA team to St. Louis, and particularly, in downtown. This would help bolster more foot traffic and drive the downtown economy. Specifically, if we could get the WNBA team, we should think about setting aside funds to improve the infrastructure (roads, lighting, pedestrian safety, etc.) around where they will play.

#054

Posted by **Alex Potter** on **11/19/2024** at **12:38pm** [Comment ID: 47] - [Link](#)

Concern

Agree: 5, Disagree: -2

This criteria includes North St. Louis, plus Dutchtown/Gravois Park/Mt. Pleasant only and leaves the rest of the City ignored. I completely disagree with this approach.

1 higher in 2055 or 2023, including curb repair, sidewalk repair and replacement, lighting
2 maintenance, repair, and modernization, traffic signal repair, replacement, and modernization,
3 street maintenance and repair, and other improvements to existing infrastructure. The Board of
4 Public Service shall use the monies appropriated under this Section to pursue every opportunity to
5 secure additional state, federal, and private funding to help pay for the projects under this Section.
6 The Board of Public Service shall prioritize expenditures in Demonstration Areas as identified in
7 the City’s Economic Justice Action Plan, including the MLK Corridor, Walnut Park, Dutchtown,
8 and Project Connect. In all cases, the monies shall be expended in full compliance with Article VI,
9 Section 25 of the Missouri Constitution. The Comptroller is authorized and directed to issue
10 warrants upon the City Treasury for payment of all expenditures authorized in this Section
11 provided that such warrants do not exceed the total amount of funds appropriated by this Section
12 (or the total value of such funds after being invested pursuant to Section Fourteen of this
13 Ordinance). As soon as is practicable, the Comptroller shall account for the funds appropriated in
14 this Section (including interest, other earned income, or repayments on loans) in a separate account
15 known as the “Disinvested Neighborhoods Repairs Trust Fund” which shall remain deposited in
16 and for the use of the Board of Public Service in subsequent fiscal years consistent with this
17 Section. Until such time as such funds are required for payment of expenditures authorized in this
18 Section, they shall be invested consistent with Section Fourteen of this Ordinance.

19 **SECTION TWO. Disinvested infrastructure beautification fund.** There is hereby
20 appropriated the sum of Twenty Million Dollars (\$20,000,000.00) of the Settlement Funds to the
21 Board of Public Service. The President of the Board of Public Service, or his or her designee, is
22 hereby authorized to make, negotiate, and execute any and all contracts or other documents on

#055

Posted by **Russel Corwin** on **11/22/2024** at **2:28pm** [Comment ID: 108] - [Link](#)

Suggestion

Agree: 0, Disagree: 0

2024 is almost over, why not use a more current metric?

#056

Posted by **Arthurine Harris** on **11/19/2024** at **6:27pm** [Comment ID: 70] - [Link](#)

Suggestion

Agree: 1, Disagree: -1

YES to investing in both infrastructure improvements AND beautification efforts in North St. Louis. We want, need and deserve BOTH. That said, I would suggest spending more on infrastructure and less on beautification, as the need for the former is greater.

#057

Posted by **Suzanne Alexander** on **11/20/2024** at **10:32am** [Comment ID: 80] - [Link](#)

Suggestion

Agree: 0, Disagree: 0

Beautification is important, but infrastructure is moreso. With better roads, an inspection and repair/replacement of water pipes to prevent lead contamination that disables our children, and redesign of traffic flow to encourage commercial growth, beautification can be a tax credit to businesses who choose to invest and support the neighborhoods in question.

1 behalf of the City to expend such funds, and to expend such funds on behalf of the City for
2 beautification of infrastructure in highly visible areas that received an Economic Justice Index
3 Composite Score of 059 or higher in 2022 or 2023, for the purpose of improving quality of life
4 and attracting private investment, including curb realignment to improve pedestrian safety and
5 quality of life, addition of pedestrian-scale lighting, landscaping such as planter boxes, trees,
6 shrubs, and flowering plants, street furnishings, sidewalks, and other aesthetic improvements that
7 improve quality of life and attract private investment. The Board of Public Service shall use the
8 monies appropriated under this Section to pursue every opportunity to secure additional state,
9 federal, and private funding to help pay for the projects under this Section. The Board of Public
10 Service shall prioritize expenditures in Demonstration Areas as identified in the City's Economic
11 Justice Action Plan, including the MLK Corridor, Walnut Park, Dutchtown, and Project Connect.
12 In all cases, the monies shall be expended in full compliance with Article VI, Section 25 of the
13 Missouri Constitution. The Comptroller is authorized and directed to issue warrants upon the City
14 Treasury for payment of all expenditures authorized in this Section provided that such warrants do
15 not exceed the total amount of funds appropriated by this Section (or the total value of such funds
16 after being invested pursuant to Section Fourteen of this Ordinance). As soon as is practicable, the
17 Comptroller shall account for the funds appropriated in this Section (including interest, other
18 earned income, or repayments on loans) in a separate account known as the "Disinvested
19 Neighborhoods Beautification Trust Fund" which shall remain deposited in and for the use of the
20 Board of Public Service in subsequent fiscal years consistent with this Section. Until such time as
21 such funds are required for payment of expenditures authorized in this Section, they shall be
22 invested consistent with Section Fourteen of this Ordinance.

#058

Posted by **Alex Potter** on **11/19/2024** at **12:11pm** [Comment ID: 34] - [Link](#)

Suggestion

Agree: 3, Disagree: -5

Distribute across all wards, allocating a % based upon land area--for example, 15% of the City's land area is in Ward X, so Ward X receives 15% of the beautification funds.

#059

Posted by **Alex Potter** on **11/19/2024** at **12:08pm** [Comment ID: 32] - [Link](#)

Concern

Agree: 4, Disagree: -4

We cannot forget about other neighborhoods in the City, just because they didn't score high on the EJI. It is unfair to ignore the rest of us and allocate all of these funds into just a couple of areas.

#060

Posted by **Chris Draper** on **11/22/2024** at **11:14am** [Comment ID: 101] - [Link](#)

Question

Agree: 0, Disagree: 0

Such as? Which projects are ready to receive funds immediately? Why are specifics not included?

#061

Posted by **Kathy Gamache** on **11/19/2024** at **11:14am** [Comment ID: 16] - [Link](#)

Suggestion

Agree: 6, Disagree: 0

I am in agreement with this expenditure, however I would like to recommend that we also look at other areas of the City that are also distressed and needing help. Portions of the Carondelet neighborhood have many houses that are in such disrepair that they may be able to be saved. Much of the Dutchtown area is in the same condition. If we could find a niche for the South Broadway store fronts to help bring them back that would help strengthen our neighborhoods. The majority of people I have spoken to are most concerned about crime, schools, housing and jobs. Downtown is important to our region but equally important is strong neighborhoods with decent housing.

Reply by **Taylor Bardsley** on **11/19/2024** at **11:33am** [Comment ID: 20] - [Link](#)

Suggestion

Agree: 3, Disagree: 0

Dutchtown was on the list in the previous paragraph! Would love to see it receive investment - Meramec St. has some great small businesses.

Reply by **Alex Potter** on **11/19/2024** at **12:04pm** [Comment ID: 30] - [Link](#)

Concern

Agree: 4, Disagree: -2

Agree. The focus always seems to be "North St. Louis," while ignoring the rest of our neighborhoods. There needs to be a more wide-ranging approach, or our somewhat stable neighborhoods, like Forest Park Southeast, will just lose momentum and decline.

#062

Posted by **Jessica Burcher** on **11/19/2024** at **8:45pm** [Comment ID: 78] - [Link](#)

Concern

Agree: 1, Disagree: -1

I agree with many comments. I see here that the distribution of funds amongst the different neighborhoods does not seem fair or reasonable. The major issues I think we are seeing in the city stem from high crime rates and an underlying factor of our school systems being entirely inadequate. In addition, our 911 call centers seem to be overwhelmed. Our first priority should be to make sure citizens are safe, and that 911 calls for help will be answered without hold times, and that there are enough police officers to respond to the calls and crimes- even traffic violations.

In addition, if we don't get our school systems fixed, families will continue to move to the county, which will continue to destabilize neighborhoods and create a disproportionate number of lower income families and households without children, meaning population (and tax revenue) will continue to dwindle as more and more people leave the city.

#063

Posted by **Matthew Naglich** on **11/19/2024** at **11:46am** [Comment ID: 24] - [Link](#)

Suggestion

Agree: 4, Disagree: 0

Please include cyclist safety here as well.

Reply by **Alex Potter** on **11/19/2024** at **12:02pm** [Comment ID: 29] - [Link](#)

Agreement

Agree: 1, Disagree: 0

1000% yes.

1 **SECTION THREE.** Disinvested neighborhoods streetscape enhancements. There is
2 hereby appropriated the sum of Fifteen Million Dollars (\$15,000,000.00) of the Settlement Funds
3 to the Board of Public Service. The President of the Board of Public Service, or his or her designee,
4 is hereby authorized to make, negotiate, and execute any and all contracts or other documents on
5 behalf of the City to expend such funds and shall expend such funds on behalf of the City. The
6 President of the Board of Public Service or his or her designee may use the funds to provide funds
7 for the enhancement of disinvested neighborhoods streetscapes, in areas that received an Economic
8 Justice Index Composite Score of 66 or higher in 2022 or 2023, including realignment and
9 reconstruction of sidewalks, curbs, and streets, new pedestrian street lighting, landscaping
10 such as planter boxes, trees, shrubs, and flowering plants, street furnishings, traffic signals, and
11 other aesthetic improvements that improve quality of life and attract private investment. The
12 President of the Board of Public Service or his or her designee shall use every available funding
13 source to complete such projects, including the use of federal funding, including federal funding
14 that is available through the East-West Gateway Council of Governments. The Board of Public
15 Service shall prioritize expenditures in Demonstration Areas as identified in the City's Economic
16 Justice Action Plan, including the MLK Corridor, Walnut Park, Dutchtown, and Project Connect.
17 In all cases, the monies shall be expended in full compliance with Article VI, Section 25 of the
18 Missouri Constitution. The Comptroller is authorized and directed to issue warrants upon the City
19 Treasury for payment of all expenditures authorized in this Section provided that such warrants do
20 not exceed the total amount of funds appropriated by this Section (or the total value of such funds
21 after being invested pursuant to Section Fourteen of this Ordinance). As soon as is practicable, the
22 Comptroller shall account for the funds appropriated in this Section (including interest, other

#064

Posted by **Alex Potter** on **11/19/2024** at **12:39pm** [Comment ID: 48] - [Link](#)

Concern

Agree: 2, Disagree: -2

Same comment. Ignores the entire City except for North St. Louis and Gravois Park/Dutchtown/Mt. Pleasant.

#065

Posted by **Alex Potter** on **11/19/2024** at **12:12pm** [Comment ID: 37] - [Link](#)

Suggestion

Agree: 5, Disagree: -5

Same comment as before, re: making these funds available to all Wards, where the % of funds is allocated based upon a Ward's land area.

#066

Posted by **Matthew Naglich** on **11/19/2024** at **11:48am** [Comment ID: 25] - [Link](#)

Suggestion

Agree: 3, Disagree: 0

Also include bicycling infrastructure in these sections.

#067

Posted by **Arthurine Harris** on **11/19/2024** at **6:30pm** [Comment ID: 72] - [Link](#)

Concern

Agree: 0, Disagree: 0

I disagree with one solitary person, The President of the Board of Public Service, having exclusive control over contracts and fund expenditure. Terrible idea. Where's the checks and balances??

1 earned income, or repayments on loans) in a separate account known as the “Disinvested
2 Neighborhoods Streetscape Enhancements Trust Fund” which shall remain deposited in and for
3 the use of the Board of Public Service in subsequent fiscal years consistent with this Section. Until
4 such time as such funds are required for payment of expenditures authorized in this Section, they
5 shall be invested consistent with Section Fourteen of this Ordinance.

6 **SECTION FOUR.** Downtown infrastructure repairs. There is hereby appropriated the
7 sum of Eleven Million Five-Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$11,500,000) of the Settlement Funds
8 to the Board of Public Service. The President of the Board of Public Service, or his or her designee,
9 is hereby authorized to make, negotiate, and execute any and all contracts or other documents on
10 behalf of the City to expend such funds on behalf of the City for repairs to infrastructure in the
11 Downtown and Downtown West Neighborhoods, including repairing streetscapes such as curb
12 repair, sidewalk repair and replacement, lighting upgrades, traffic signals, and pavement
13 improvements. The President of the Board of Public Service or his or her designee may use the
14 funds to provide local matching funds for the enhancement of streetscapes. The Board of Public
15 Service shall use the monies appropriated under this Section to pursue every opportunity to secure
16 additional state, federal, and private funding to help pay for the projects under this Section. All
17 expenditures pursuant to this section shall be in accordance with the Design Downtown STL
18 Neighborhood Plan adopted by the City of St. Louis Planning Commission on December 2, 2020,
19 and made part of the City’s Comprehensive Plan. In all cases, the monies shall be expended in full
20 compliance with Article VI, Section 25 of the Missouri Constitution. The Comptroller is
21 authorized and directed to issue warrants upon the City Treasury for payment of all expenditures
22 authorized in this Section provided that such warrants do not exceed the total amount of funds

#068

Posted by **Nicholas Freed** on **11/19/2024** at **11:05am** [Comment ID: 13] - [Link](#)

Concern

Agree: 7, Disagree: -1

While downtown is an important space for the city, there are far more areas that need the money. Making this an endowment that can be drawn from, or something similar, can help to improve the neighborhoods that need it--including North city, Southeast, South, and Northwest areas. Putting all this money into downtown is a gift to corporations and not citizens.

#069

Posted by **Dan Pistor** on **11/30/2024** at **11:20am** [Comment ID: 154] - [Link](#)

Endorsement

Agree: 0, Disagree: 0

Fully support

#070

Posted by **James Jackson** on **11/19/2024** at **12:06pm** [Comment ID: 31] - [Link](#)

Suggestion

Agree: 3, Disagree: 0

This sum should be larger. Downtown needs more infrastructure repair than 11.5M can buy.

#071

Posted by **Chris Draper** on **11/22/2024** at **11:17am** [Comment ID: 103] - [Link](#)

Question

Agree: 0, Disagree: 0

How are the board sponsors arriving at these sums? Why this amount for downtown and other amounts for other parts of the city? Which projects would this fund? Is this a "finger to the wind" assessment or a more studiously arrived upon number?

#072

Posted by **Rebekah Nelson** on **11/19/2024** at **11:07am** [Comment ID: 14] - [Link](#)

Question

Agree: 4, Disagree: 0

Shouldn't these items already be part of the existing budget?

Reply by **Anonymous** on **11/19/2024** at **12:18pm** [Comment ID: 38] - [Link](#)

Concern

Agree: 0, Disagree: 0

It 'should' be, but the City doesn't allocate enough to the Streets Department to accomplish it.

1 appropriated by this Section (or the total value of such funds after being invested pursuant to
2 Section Fourteen of this Ordinance). As soon as is practicable, the Comptroller shall account for
3 the funds appropriated in this Section (including interest, other earned income, or repayments on
4 loans) in a separate account known as the “Downtown Infrastructure Repairs Trust Fund” which
5 shall remain deposited in and for the use of the Board of Public Service in subsequent fiscal years
6 consistent with this Section. Until such time as such funds are required for payment of
7 expenditures authorized in this Section, they shall be invested consistent with Section Fourteen of
8 this Ordinance.

9 **SECTION FIVE.** ⁰⁷⁵W⁰⁷⁷ Downtown infrastructure beautification fund. There is hereby
10 appropriated the sum of Nineteen Million Dollars (\$19,000,000.00) of the Settlement Funds to the
11 Board of Public Service. ⁰⁷⁴The President of the Board of Public Service, or his or her designee, is
12 hereby authorized to make, negotiate, and execute any and all contracts or other documents on
13 behalf of the City to expend such funds, and to expend such funds on behalf of the City for
14 beautification of infrastructure in high-visibility areas in the Downtown and Downtown West
15 Neighborhoods, for the purpose of improving quality of life and attracting private investment,
16 including curb ⁰⁷³alignment to improve pedestrian safety and quality of life; addition of pedestrian-
17 scale lighting, landscaping such as planter boxes, trees, shrubs, and flowering plants; street
18 furnishings; sidewalks; and other aesthetic improvements that improve quality of life and attract
19 private investment. The Board of Public Service shall use the monies appropriated under this
20 Section to pursue every opportunity to secure additional state, federal, and private funding to help
21 pay for the projects under this Section. All expenditures pursuant to this section shall be in
22 accordance with the Design Downtown STL Neighborhood Plan adopted by the City of St. Louis

#073

Posted by **Xandi Barrett** on **11/20/2024** at **11:43am** [Comment ID: 82] - [Link](#)

Concern

Agree: 2, Disagree: 0

Pedestrian safety measures are not beautification. They are infrastructure.

#074

Posted by **Les Sterman** on **11/30/2024** at **10:00am** [Comment ID: 149] - [Link](#)

Suggestion

Agree: 0, Disagree: 0

The Board of Public Service doesn't have the skills or capacity to make decisions on how these funds are used or manage these funds effectively. However, this proposal is a clear indication of the loss of faith in the St. Louis Development Corporation to make sound decisions and manage funds. The final bill needs to address transparency and accountability in very specific terms in specifying the decision-making, management, and administrative arrangements for expenditure of Rams settlement funds. If it is to be SLDC, there must be an effective oversight mechanism, since the agency's board has proven incapable of independent oversight.

#075

Posted by **Alex Potter** on **11/19/2024** at **12:19pm** [Comment ID: 39] - [Link](#)

Endorsement

Agree: 0, Disagree: -4

Definitely think this is important and should be a priority.

#076

Posted by **Dan Pistor** on **11/30/2024** at **11:20am** [Comment ID: 153] - [Link](#)

Endorsement

Agree: 0, Disagree: 0

Fully support

#077

Posted by **Cathy Ebbesmeyer** on **11/23/2024** at **4:02pm** [Comment ID: 117] - [Link](#)

Question

Agree: 0, Disagree: 0

How does this allocation differ from the ARPA funds that were allocated to downtown?

1 Planning Commission on December 2, 2020, and made part of the City’s Comprehensive Plan. In
2 all cases, the monies shall be expended in full compliance with Article VI, Section 25 of the
3 Missouri Constitution. The Comptroller is authorized and directed to issue warrants upon the City
4 Treasury for payment of all expenditures authorized in this Section provided that such warrants do
5 not exceed the total amount of funds appropriated by this Section (or the total value of such funds
6 after being invested pursuant to Section Fourteen of this Ordinance). As soon as is practicable, the
7 Comptroller shall account for the funds appropriated in this Section (including interest, other
8 earned income, or repayments on loans) in a separate account known as the “080wntown
9 Beautification Trust Fund” which shall remain deposited in and for the use of the Board of Public
10 Service in subsequent fiscal years consistent with this Section. Until such time as such funds are
11 required for payment of expenditures authorized in this Section, they shall be invested consistent
12 with Section Fourteen of this Ordinance.

13 **078** SECTION **079** 5. Downtown streetscape enhancements. There is hereby appropriated the
14 sum of Twenty-two Million Dollars (\$22,000,000.00) of the Settlement Funds to the Board of
15 Public Service. The President of the Board of Public Service, or his or her designee, is hereby
16 authorized to make, negotiate, and execute any and all contracts or other documents on behalf of
17 the City to expend such funds and shall expend such funds on behalf of the City. The President of
18 the Board of Public Service or his or he designee shall use the funds to provide funds for the
19 enhancement of streetscapes in the Downtown and Downtown West Neighborhoods, including
20 realignment and reconstruction of sidewalks, curbs, and streets, new pedestrian and street lighting,
21 landscaping such as planter boxes, trees, shrubs, and flowering plants, street furnishings, traffic
22 signals, and other aesthetic improvements that improve quality of life and attract private

#078

Posted by **Michelle Witthaus** on **11/20/2024** at **1:33pm** [Comment ID: 90] - [Link](#)

Concern

Agree: 2, Disagree: 0

How many times are we going to "revitalize" Downtown? It's pointless to put more money into Downtown if we haven't ever provided proper support to our majority-Black neighborhoods that have seen disinvestment over the last 70 years. Instead of trying to "attract" new people or businesses (that won't come here because of our poverty & crime) we need to focus funds on keeping our current residents many of whom leave, especially Black residents. Putting more of this money into North City would be a better investment in the City's future.

#079

Posted by **Dan Pistor** on **11/30/2024** at **11:19am** [Comment ID: 152] - [Link](#)

Endorsement

Agree: 0, Disagree: 0

The Downtown streetscape needs to be modernized. I support

#080


Posted by **Alex Potter** on **11/19/2024** at **12:20pm** [Comment ID: 41] - [Link](#)

Suggestion

Agree: 0, Disagree: 0

I like the idea that any Rams funds allocated to XYZ project get placed in a separate trust fund, so that they don't get squandered away on other things.

1 investment. All expenditures pursuant to this section shall be in accordance with the Design
2 Downtown STL Neighborhood Plan adopted by the City of St. Louis Planning Commission on
3 December 2, 2020, and made part of the City’s Comprehensive Plan. The President of the Board
4 of Public Service or his or her designee shall use every available funding source to complete such
5 projects, including the use of federal funding, including federal funding that is available through
6 the East-West Gateway Council of Governments. In all cases, the monies shall be expended in full
7 compliance with Article VI, Section 25 of the Missouri Constitution. The Comptroller is
8 authorized and directed to issue warrants upon the City Treasury for payment of all expenditures
9 authorized in this Section provided that such warrants do not exceed the total amount of funds
10 appropriated by this Section (or the total value of such funds after being invested pursuant to
11 Section Fourteen of this Ordinance). As soon as is practicable, the Comptroller shall account for
12 the funds appropriated in this Section (including interest, other earned income, or repayments on
13 loans) in a separate account known as the “Downtown Streetscape Enhancements Trust Fund”
14 which shall remain deposited in and for the use of the Board of Public Service in subsequent fiscal
15 years consistent with this Section. Until such time as such funds are required for payment of
16 expenditures authorized in this Section, they shall be invested consistent with Section Fourteen of
17 this Ordinance.

18 **SECTION SEVEN.** North St. Louis rehabilitation of high-impact buildings and projects
19 to eliminate blight. There is hereby appropriated the sum of Thirty-Five Million Dollars
20 5,000,000.00) of the Settlement Funds to the Board of Public Service. The President of the
21 Board of Public Service, or his or her designee, is hereby authorized to make, negotiate, and
22 execute any and all contracts or other documents on behalf of the City to expend such funds, and

#081

Posted by **Alex Potter** on **11/19/2024** at **12:24pm** [Comment ID: 43] - [Link](#)

Concern

Agree: 2, Disagree: 0

The allocation of \$35M seems way too high. Aren't these privately-owned buildings? Why not instead focus on adding Code Compliance officers specifically dedicated to tackling North St. Louis properties, fining, and holding responsible those private owners through the legal process? I don't agree with taxpayers funding improvements for privately-owned properties when there is already a legal process in place for negligent property owners.

Reply by **Suzanne Alexander** on **11/20/2024** at **10:48am** [Comment ID: 81] - [Link](#)

Suggestion

Agree: 2, Disagree: 0

I believe that the intent is not to reward absentee owners, but to enforce the citations issued and pursue legal action in court - all of which require funds. The section further mentions demolition, which also will need to be funded. Properties that will need to be cleared will also require funds (personnel, equipment) . It's an appropriate use of funding to get rid of environmental and safety hazards in order to make the area safer for residents and businesses.

1 to expend such funds on behalf of the City to fund rehabilitation of decayed, high-impact buildings
2 and projects in 083th St. Louis with the explicit aim of eliminating or preventing blight, including
3 de082ition if necessary, or where existing conditions pose a serious and urgent threat to the health
4 or welfare of the community, particularly when a project can serve as a catalyst to transforming a
5 neighborhood and can serve as an anchor for further development. Such funds are to be spent on
6 projects in areas that are located: a) north of Delmar Boulevard and west of 14th Street, b) east of
7 14th Street, west of 4th Street, and north of Cole Street, or c) east of 4th Street and north of Carr
8 Street. In all cases, the monies shall be expended in full compliance with Article VI, Section 25 of
9 the Missouri Constitution. The Comptroller is authorized and directed to issue warrants upon the
10 City Treasury for payment of all expenditures authorized in this Section provided that such
11 warrants do not exceed the total amount of funds appropriated by this Section (or the total value
12 of such funds after being invested pursuant to Section Fourteen of this Ordinance). As soon as is
13 practicable, the Comptroller shall account for the funds appropriated in this Section (including
14 interest, other earned income, or repayments on loans) in a separate account known as the “North
15 St. Louis Rehabilitation of High-Impact Buildings and Projects Trust Fund” which shall remain
16 deposited in and for the use of the Board of Public Service in subsequent fiscal years consistent
17 with this Section. Until such time as such funds are required for payment of expenditures
18 authorized in this Section, they shall be invested consistent with Section Fourteen of this
19 Ordinance.

20 **SECTION EIGHT.** Southeast St. Louis rehabilitation of high-impact buildings and
21 projects to eliminate blight. There is hereby appropriated the sum of Twenty Million Dollars
22 (\$20,000,000.00) of the Settlement Funds to the Board of Public Service. The President of the

#082

Posted by **James Jackson** on **11/19/2024** at **12:09pm** [Comment ID: 33] - [Link](#)

Endorsement

Agree: 4, Disagree: 0

I'm glad you included demolition. Some buildings, though once beautiful, are simply too expensive to restore. The main thing is to remove blight--whether through incentivizing restoration, or demolishing that which is beyond repair.

#083

Posted by **Alex Potter** on **11/19/2024** at **12:25pm** [Comment ID: 44] - [Link](#)

Concern

Agree: 2, Disagree: -2

North St. Louis should be the focus, but not the only focus.

Reply by **TH** on **11/20/2024** at **5:33pm** [Comment ID: 91] - [Link](#)

Concern

Agree: 0, Disagree: 0

Crime should be the focus in every neighborhood. Especially north city because we have been dealing with the worst of it for so long. We are tired.

1 Board of Public Service, or his or her designee, is hereby authorized to make, negotiate, and
2 execute any and all contracts⁰⁸⁵ or other documents on behalf of the City to expend such funds, and
3 to expend such funds on behalf of the City to fund rehabilitation of decayed, high⁰⁸⁶ impact buildings
4 and projects that are more than two hundred thousand (200,000) square feet, are located south of
5 Interstate 64, and are in in areas that received an Economic Justice Index Composite Score of 40.6
6 or higher in ⁰⁸⁴ or 2023, with the explicit aim of eliminating or preventing blight, including
7 demolition if necessary, or where existing conditions pose a serious and urgent threat to the health
8 or welfare of the community, particularly when a project can serve as a catalyst to transforming a
9 neighborhood and serve as an anchor for further development. In all cases, the monies shall be
10 expended in full compliance with Article VI, Section 25 of the Missouri Constitution. The
11 Comptroller is authorized and directed to issue warrants upon the City Treasury for payment of all
12 expenditures authorized in this Section provided that such warrants do not exceed the total amount
13 of funds appropriated by this Section (or the total value of such funds after being invested pursuant
14 to Section Fourteen of this Ordinance). As soon as is practicable, the Comptroller shall account
15 for the funds appropriated in this Section (including interest, other earned income, or repayments
16 on loans) in a separate account known as the “Southeast St. Louis Rehabilitation of High-Impact
17 Buildings and Projects Trust Fund” which shall remain deposited in and for the use of the Board
18 of Public Service in subsequent fiscal years consistent with this Section. Until such time as such
19 funds are required for payment of expenditures authorized in this Section, they shall be invested
20 consistent with Section Fourteen of this Ordinance.

21 **SECTION NINE.** Downtown rehabilitation of high-impact buildings and projects to
22 eliminate blight. There is hereby appropriated the sum of Thirty Million Dollars (\$30,000,000.00)

#084

Posted by **Alex Potter** on **11/19/2024** at **12:37pm** [Comment ID: 46] - [Link](#)

Concern

Agree: 3, Disagree: -2

This is VERY misleading. South of I-64 with an EJI of 40.6 or greater only includes FOUR small Census tracts, basically the Gravois Park, Dutchtown, and Mt. Pleasant areas. This leaves the ENTIRE CITY south of I-64 ignored, except for these areas.

https://experience.arcgis.com/experience/9af35eec108848e59551678ddd0f4e20/page/Page/?views=EJI-Composite-Score-3#data_s=id%3AdataSource_30%3A8

#085

Posted by **Nilesh Patel** on **11/19/2024** at **11:41am** [Comment ID: 21] - [Link](#)

Concern

Agree: 1, Disagree: 0

This has the potential for an abuse of power or even the appearance of it which can be just as damaging.

#086

Posted by **Jonathon Rogles** on **11/19/2024** at **6:27am** [Comment ID: 10] - [Link](#)

Concern

Agree: 8, Disagree: -3

By selectively choosing neighborhoods-- this is exactly how we got dis-invested neighborhoods to begin with... This is no where near as inclusive as it needs to be for South City. Kingshighway and Gravois have been some of the worst roads in the entire city for 3 decades and when looking at the blight-map you see in south city there are many more small residences that are abandoned and falling a part vs large vacant plots up north.

Reply by **Alex Potter** on **11/19/2024** at **12:27pm** [Comment ID: 45] - [Link](#)

Concern

Agree: 3, Disagree: -3

Couldn't agree more. This entire Board Bill snubs way too many neighborhoods who need support and investment, too.

1 of the Settlement Funds to the Board of Public Service. The President of the Board of Public
2 Service, or his or her designee, is hereby authorized to make, negotiate, and execute any and all
3 contracts or other documents on behalf of the City to expend such funds, and to expend such funds
4 on behalf of the City to fund rehabilitation of decayed, high-impact buildings and projects with the
5 explicit aim of eliminating or preventing blight, including demolition if necessary, or where
6 existing conditions pose a serious and urgent threat to the health or welfare of the community,
7 particularly when a project can serve as a catalyst to transforming a neighborhood and can serve
8 as an anchor for further development. All expenditures pursuant to this section shall be in
9 accordance with the Design Downtown STL Neighborhood Plan adopted by the City of St. Louis
10 Planning Commission on December 2, 2020, and made part of the City’s Comprehensive Plan. In
11 all cases, the monies shall be expended in full compliance with Article VI, Section 25 of the
12 Missouri Constitution. The Comptroller is authorized and directed to issue warrants upon the City
13 Treasury for payment of all expenditures authorized in this Section provided that such warrants do
14 not exceed the total amount of funds appropriated by this Section (or the total value of such funds
15 after being invested pursuant to Section Fourteen of this Ordinance). As soon as is practicable,
16 the Comptroller shall account for the funds appropriated in this Section (including interest, other
17 earned income, or repayments on loans) in a separate account known as the “Downtown
18 Rehabilitation of High-Impact Buildings and Projects Trust Fund” which shall remain deposited
19 in and for the use of the Board of Public Service in subsequent fiscal years consistent with this
20 Section. Until such time as such funds are required for payment of expenditures authorized in this
21 Section, they shall be invested consistent with Section Fourteen of this Ordinance.

22 **SECTION TEN.** Disinvested neighborhoods housing initiative. There is hereby

1 appropriated the sum of Fifteen Million Dollars (\$15,000,000.00) of the Settlement Funds to the
2 Board of Public Service. The President of the Board of Public Service, or his or her designee, is
3 hereby authorized to make, negotiate, ⁰⁸⁹ execute any and all contracts or other documents on
4 behalf of the City to expend such funds, and to expend such funds on behalf of the City to fund a
5 disinvested neighborhoods housing initiative, in which the funds would be used in areas that
6 received an Economic Justice Index Composite Score of 40.6 or higher in 2022 or 2023, to support
7 the development of new, market-rate housing and the rehabilitation of existing houses, including,
8 but not limited to, ⁰⁸⁷ subsidies for down payments for new owners ⁰⁹⁰ and home improvement grants to
9 current home owners. The Comptroller is authorized and directed to issue warrants upon the City
10 Treasury for payment of all expenditures authorized in this Section provided that such warrants do
11 not exceed the total amount of funds appropriated by this Section (or the total value of such funds
12 after being invested pursuant to Section Fourteen of this Ordinance). As soon as is practicable,
13 the Comptroller shall account for the funds appropriated in this Section (including interest, other
14 earned income, or repayments on loans) in a separate account known as the “Disinvested
15 Neighborhoods Housing Initiative Trust Fund” which shall remain deposited in and for the use of
16 the Board of Public Service in subsequent fiscal years consistent with this Section. Until such time
17 as such funds are required for payment of expenditures authorized in this Section, they shall be
18 invested consistent with Section Fourteen of this Ordinance.

19 **SECTION EL⁰⁸⁸EN.** Downtown housing initiative. There is hereby appropriated the
20 sum of Ten Million Dollars (\$10,000,000.00) of the Settlement Funds to the Board of Public
21 Service. The President of the Board of Public Service, or his or her designee, is hereby authorized
22 to make, negotiate, and execute any and all contracts or other documents on behalf of the City to

#087

Posted by **Alex Potter** on **11/19/2024** at **12:44pm** [Comment ID: 50] - [Link](#)

Concern

Agree: 4, Disagree: -2

Why is the City proposing to hand out free money for down payments? We have to stop deprioritizing the duties of the City--such as maintaining infrastructure, having adequate refuse trucks, and enforcing Code violations--and stop acting like a charity.

#088

Posted by **Dan Pistor** on **11/30/2024** at **11:18am** [Comment ID: 151] - [Link](#)

Endorsement

Agree: 0, Disagree: 0

Fully support

#089

Posted by **James Jackson** on **11/19/2024** at **12:12pm** [Comment ID: 35] - [Link](#)

Endorsement

Agree: 3, Disagree: -1

There definitely needs to be investment in the creation (and incentivization) of affordable housing in these neighborhoods. I wish this sum could be even more.

#090

Posted by **Tracey Brown** on **11/19/2024** at **11:12am** [Comment ID: 15] - [Link](#)

Suggestion

Agree: 3, Disagree: 0

Improvement grants should be available to all city residents that qualify , no matter what neighborhood they are in.

Reply by **Anonymous** on **11/19/2024** at **12:42pm** [Comment ID: 49] - [Link](#)

Concern

Agree: 4, Disagree: -3

Yes. This feels very much like redlining and exclusiveness in housing.

1 expend such funds, and to expend such funds on behalf of the City to fund a downtown housing
2 initiative to bridge the gap between the cost to build new-construction or the cost to rehabilitate
3 and renovate residential units and anticipated equity and debt available to amortize these costs in
4 the Downtown and Downtown West Neighborhoods, including but not limited to for-sale housing.
5 All expenditures pursuant to this section shall be in accordance with the Design Downtown STL
6 Neighborhood Plan adopted by the City of St. Louis Planning Commission on December 2, 2020,
7 and made part of the City’s Comprehensive Plan. In all cases, the monies shall be expended in full
8 compliance with Article VI, Section 25 of the Missouri Constitution. The Comptroller is
9 authorized and directed to issue warrants upon the City Treasury for payment of all expenditures
10 authorized in this Section provided that such warrants do not exceed the total amount of funds
11 appropriated by this Section (or the total value of such funds after being invested pursuant to
12 Section Fourteen of this Ordinance). As soon as is practicable, the Comptroller shall account for
13 the funds appropriated in this Section (including interest, other earned income, or repayments on
14 loans) in a separate account known as the “Downtown Housing Initiative Trust Fund” which shall
15 remain deposited in and for the use of the Board of Public Service in subsequent fiscal years
16 consistent with this Section. Until such time as such funds are required for payment of
17 expenditures authorized in this Section, they shall be invested consistent with Section Fourteen of
18 this Ordinance.

19 **SECTION TWELVE.** Disinvested neighborhood tail revitalization. There is hereby
20 appropriated the sum of Five Million Dollars (\$5,000,000.00) of the Settlement Funds to the Board
21 of Public Service. The President of the Board of Public Service, or his or her designee, is hereby
22 authorized to make, negotiate, and execute any and all contracts or other documents on behalf of

#091

Posted by **TOMMIE MORRIS** on **11/22/2024** at **8:31pm** [Comment ID: 111] - [Link](#)

Suggestion

Agree: 0, Disagree: 0

FUNDING ALLOWANCE FOR SENIORS TO MAKE REPAIRS TO HOMES ,SUCH AS ROOF REPAIR , ROUTINE YARDWORK NEEDED TO CONTINUE TO LIVE SAFELY IN THEIR HOMES.THAT THEY CAN NOT AFFORD

#092

Posted by **Anonymous** on **11/19/2024** at **12:50pm** [Comment ID: 53] - [Link](#)

Concern

Agree: 4, Disagree: 0

Really disagree with how broadly this section is written. It has the potential to blow \$5M on a bunch of discretionary items, like paying for consultant and design fees for private individuals, and ending up with nothing to show for it. Plus, it is exclusive.

1 the City to expend such funds, and to expend such funds on behalf of the City for programs
2 designed to increase retail activity and revitalization in disinvested neighborhoods in North and
3 Southeast St. Louis, including but not limited to programs advising on store design and location,
4 programs promoting and developing commercial corridors, and programs studying the feasibility
5 of redevelopment and new construction projects involving retail. Such funds are to be spent on
6 projects in areas that received an Economic Justice Index Composite Score of 40.6 or higher in
7 2022 or 2023. The Board of Public Service shall prioritize expenditures in Demonstration Areas
8 as identified in the City’s Economic Justice Action Plan, including the MLK Corridor, Walnut
9 Park, Dutchtown, and Project Connect. In all cases, the monies shall be expended in full
10 compliance with Article VI, Section 25 of the Missouri Constitution. The Comptroller is
11 authorized and directed to issue warrants upon the City Treasury for payment of all expenditures
12 authorized in this Section provided that such warrants do not exceed the total amount of funds
13 appropriated by this Section (or the total value of such funds after being invested pursuant to
14 Section Fourteen of this Ordinance). As soon as is practicable, the Comptroller shall account for
15 the funds appropriated in this Section (including interest, other earned income, or repayments on
16 loans) in a separate account known as the “Disinvested Neighborhoods Retail Revitalization Trust
17 Fund” which shall remain deposited in and for the use of the Board of Public Service in subsequent
18 fiscal years consistent with this Section. Until such time as such funds are required for payment
19 of expenditures authorized in this Section, they shall be invested consistent with Section Fourteen
20 of this Ordinance.

21 **SECTION THIRTEEN.** Downtown and riverfront retail and revitalization. There is
22 hereby appropriated the sum of Ten Million Dollars (\$10,000,000.00) of the Settlement Funds to

#093

Posted by **Xandi Barrett** on **11/20/2024** at **11:53am** [Comment ID: 83] - [Link](#)

Concern

Agree: 1, Disagree: -1

Downtown only serves a small portion of city residents. It's important to improve safety and stabilize the urban core but we should be spending these funds on propping up retail.

Reply by **Xandi Barrett** on **11/20/2024** at **11:58am** [Comment ID: 84] - [Link](#)

Concern

Agree: 0, Disagree: 0

*should NOT be

#094

Posted by **Alex Potter** on **11/19/2024** at **12:46pm** [Comment ID: 52] - [Link](#)

Suggestion

Agree: 2, Disagree: -1

Should be available to anyone in any neighborhood who meets certain criteria.

1 the Board of Public Service. The President of the Board of Public Service, or his or her designee,
2 is hereby authorized to make, negotiate, and execute any and all contracts or other documents on
3 behalf of the City to expend such funds, and to expend such funds on behalf of the City to support
4 the revitalization of the riverfront, including but not limited to bringing attractions and economic
5 activity to the downtown riverfront in the Laclede's Landing area and to support and to expend
6 such funds on behalf of the City for programs designed to increase retail activity and revitalization
7 in the Downtown and Downtown West Neighborhoods, including but not limited to programs
8 advising on store design and location, programs promoting and developing commercial corridors,
9 and programs studying the feasibility of redevelopment and new construction projects involving
10 retail. The President of the Board of Public Service shall use the monies appropriated under this
11 Section to pursue every opportunity to secure additional state, federal, and private funding to help
12 pay for the projects under this Section. All expenditures pursuant to this section shall be in
13 accordance with the Design Downtown STL Neighborhood Plan adopted by the City of St. Louis
14 Planning Commission on December 2, 2020, and made part of the City's Comprehensive Plan. In
15 all cases, the monies shall be expended in full compliance with Article VI, Section 25 of the
16 Missouri Constitution. The Comptroller is authorized and directed to issue warrants upon the City
17 Treasury for payment of all expenditures authorized in this Section provided that such warrants do
18 not exceed the total amount of funds appropriated by this Section (or the total value of such funds
19 after being invested pursuant to Section Fourteen of this Ordinance). As soon as is practicable, the
20 Comptroller shall account for the funds appropriated in this Section (including interest, other
21 earned income, or repayments on loans) in a separate account known as the "Downtown Riverfront
22 and Retail Revitalization Trust Fund" which shall remain deposited in and for the use of the Board

#095

Posted by **Anonymous** on **11/19/2024** at **12:51pm** [Comment ID: 54] - [Link](#)

Question

Agree: 4, Disagree: 0

Would be curious to know what other cities are paying for private developers' feasibility and construction studies.

Reply by **Benjamin** on **11/19/2024** at **6:29pm** [Comment ID: 71] - [Link](#)

Concern

Agree: 0, Disagree: 0

Just another way for City leaders to line their friends' pockets.

1 of Public Service in subsequent fiscal years consistent with this Section. Until such time as such
2 funds are required for payment of expenditures authorized in this Section, they shall be invested
3 consistent with Section Fourteen of this Ordinance.

4 **SECTION FOURTEEN. Investment of Funds.** The monies accounted for in the trust
5 funds established by each of Sections One through Sections Thirteen above shall be invested,
6 consistent with all relevant laws, in securities or bonds issued by the U.S. Treasury. In making
7 such investments, all City officials, including the Mayor, Comptroller, and Treasurer, shall seek
8 to maximize the return on investment and shall base their investment decisions on the following
9 expected investment time horizons:

10 A. Eight Million Dollars (\$8,000,000) should be available for expenditure in one to
11 three years (2025 through 2027).

12 B. Ninety-Six Million Five Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$96,500,000) should be
13 available for expenditure in two to five years (2026 through 2029).

14 C. Forty-Five Million Dollars (\$45,000,000) should be available for expenditure in
15 three to five years (2027 through 2029).

16 D. Eighteen Million Dollars ⁰⁹⁶ (\$18,000,000) should be available ⁰⁹⁷ for expenditure in three
17 to six years (2027 through 2030).

18 E. Fifty Million Dollars (\$50,000,000) should be available for expenditure in three to
19 seven years (2027 through 2031).

20 F. The Fifteen Million Dollars (\$15,000,000) appropriated in Section Ten should be
21 available for expenditure in three to ten years (2027 through 2034).

#096

Posted by **Allison Roberts** on **11/23/2024** at **8:05am** [Comment ID: 114] - [Link](#)

Endorsement

Agree: 0, Disagree: 0

Endorse!

#097

Posted by **Arthurine Harris** on **11/19/2024** at **6:35pm** [Comment ID: 74] - [Link](#)

Question

Agree: 1, Disagree: 0

What is the rationale behind this expenditure schedule? How did you determine how much money to disburse each year? Why not disburse \$10 million in the 1st year, instead of \$8 million -- or even \$15 million? Would it make a difference? I'm curious...

#098

Posted by **A J Bronsky** on **11/19/2024** at **11:43am** [Comment ID: 22] - [Link](#)


Endorsement

Agree: 0, Disagree: 0

Let's get moving

1 **SECTION FIFTEEN. Return on Investment.** With regard to the funds appropriated in
2 Sections Seven, Eight, and Nine of this Ordinance, the Board of Public Service and the agencies
3 which it serves, in addition to seeking funds from state, federal, and private sources, shall seek to
4 structure all necessary agreements and transactions in such a way that any contribution of funds
5 under this Ordinance may be paid back to the City with an appropriate return, whenever feasible
6 and consistent with applicable law. Any financial return on such projects shall be deposited along
7 with and treated in the same manner as the City’s other general fund revenues.

8 **SECTION EIGHTEEN. Severability Clause.** It is hereby declared to be the intention of
9 the Board of Aldermen that each and every part, section and subsection of this Ordinance shall be
10 separate and severable from each and every other part, section and subsection hereof and that the
11 Board of Aldermen intends to adopt each said part, section and subsection separately and
12 independently of any other part, section and subsection. In the event that any part, section or
13 subsection of this Ordinance shall be determined to be or to have been unlawful or unconstitutional,
14 the remaining parts, sections and subsections shall be and remain in full force and effect, unless
15 the court making such finding shall determine that the valid portions standing alone are incomplete
16 and are incapable of being executed in accord with the legislative intent.

17 **SECTION SEVENTEEN. Emergency Clause.** Delay in receipt and appropriation of these
18 monies will increase threats to the public health and welfare by causing delay in responding to
19 lingering fiscal and other impacts caused by the COVID-19 crisis. This being an ordinance
20 providing for the immediate preservation of public peace, health or safety, and providing for public
21 work or improvements and repairs thereof, it is hereby declared to be an emergency measure within
22 the meaning of Sections 19 and 20 of  Article IV of the Charter of the City of St. Louis and therefore
23 this ordinance shall become effective immediately upon its passage and approval by the Mayor.

#099

Posted by **Jami Boyles** on **11/29/2024** at **3:38pm** [Comment ID: 147] - [Link](#)

Agree: 0, Disagree: 0

I fully support this bill as an employee who works in the City daily.

Board Bill Number 131
Exhibit A: Funded Programs

Department or Agency	Program Title (Section of Ordinance)	Appropriation
Board of Public Service	100 invested neighborhoods infrastructure repairs (Section One)	\$20,000,000 114
Board of Public Service	Disinvested neighborhoods infrastructure beautification (Section Two) 102	\$20,000,000 111
Board of Public Service	Disinvested streetscape enhancements (Section Three)	\$15,000,000 118
Board of Public Service	Rehabilitation of decayed, high-impact buildings and projects in North St. Louis to eliminate or prevent blight or where existing conditions pose a serious and urgent threat to the health or welfare of the community (Section Seven)	\$35,000,000 112
Board of Public Service	Rehabilitation of decayed, high-impact buildings and projects in Southeast St. Louis to eliminate or prevent blight or where existing conditions pose a serious and urgent threat to the health or welfare of the community (Section Eight)	\$20,000,000 108
Board of Public Service	Disinvested neighborhoods housing initiative (Section Ten)	\$15,000,000
Board of Public Service	Disinvested neighborhoods retail revitalization (Section Twelve)	\$5,000,000
	Disinvested Neighborhoods Subtotal	\$130,000,000
Board of Public Service	Downtown infrastructure repairs (Section Four)	\$11,500,000 117
Board of Public Service	Downtown infrastructure beautification (Section Five)	\$19,000,000 119
Board of Public Service	Downtown streetscape enhancements (Section Six)	\$26,000,000 107 120
Board of Public Service	Rehabilitation of decayed, high-impact buildings and projects in Downtown to eliminate or prevent blight or where existing conditions pose a serious and urgent threat to the health or welfare of the community (Section Nine)	\$30,000,000 116
Board of Public Service	Downtown housing initiative (Section Eleven)	\$10,000,000 115
Board of Public Service	Downtown and riverfront retail revitalization (Section Thirteen)	\$10,000,000 110
	Downtown Neighborhoods Subtotal	\$102,500,000 113
	Total Appropriation:	\$231,000,000 104 105 109 121

103

106

#100

Posted by **Anonymous** on **11/19/2024** at **12:57pm** [Comment ID: 55] - [Link](#)

Concern

Agree: 2, Disagree: -2

This entire bill focuses on "disinvested neighborhoods with an EJI score of 40.6 or higher," which means North St. Louis, plus Gravois Park/Dutchtown/Mt. Pleasant only (aside from the specific allocations for downtown that are mentioned). The rest of the city's neighborhoods are left ignored. We have burned out houses, alleys that need repaved, streets, sidewalks, and curbs that are crumbling, beautification needs, vacant retail, and everything else. I could never support this bill due to the narrow focus of it. I think it is grossly negligent to not allocate at least some funds to other areas in need (fully recognizing that some areas need more funds than others).

Reply by **Anonymous** on **11/19/2024** at **7:38pm** [Comment ID: 77] - [Link](#)

Concern

Agree: 0, Disagree: 0

When nearly the entirety of the document allocates fund to disinvested and downtown (while funds are needed) it completely ignores large swaths of the city population and fails to address issues outside of those areas. These funds should be for the benefit of all of the city

#101

Posted by **Tracey Brown** on **11/19/2024** at **11:15am** [Comment ID: 17] - [Link](#)

Concern

Agree: 1, Disagree: -4

More money should be spent on our downtown area than in "disinvested neighborhoods", considering it is what most visitors see. It is embarrassing when I go downtown and see things falling apart and trash everywhere. We need to do better.

#102

Posted by **Teresa Turin-Lis** on **11/20/2024** at **5:48pm** [Comment ID: 92] - [Link](#)

Question

Agree: 0, Disagree: 0

How do Section 2 and Section 3 differ?

#103

Posted by **Jennie Hampel** on **11/27/2024** at **12:05pm** [Comment ID: 139] - [Link](#)

Endorsement

Agree: 0, Disagree: 0

This is very needed. I hope we get to work quickly! Many of these items have been needed for 10+ years so my personal hope is that it doesn't take 10+ years to put this to work! Thank you all for working on this- I endorse and hope it gets approved.

#104

Posted by **Amanda Goldsmith** on **11/25/2024** at **1:08pm** [Comment ID: 125] - [Link](#)

Endorsement

Agree: 0, Disagree: 0

I support Bill 131. As the economic engine for the City we must invest in Downtown.

#105

Posted by **Hope Wyss** on **11/19/2024** at **11:27am** [Comment ID: 19] - [Link](#)

Concern

Agree: 4, Disagree: -1

I agree that a good deal of the money should go to disenfranchised neighborhoods, North STL, and downtown, but I'm concerned that other areas of need are being ignored. Streets, sidewalks, and alleyways across the City are in need of repair. It's quite the obstacle course to navigate a stroller on our City sidewalks. If we want to attract people to live in STL, not just visit, we need to have decent roads, sidewalks, alleyways, and schools. We want STL to be more than a tourist stop. We've been losing population yearly. If we're going to be a sustainable City, we need to gain population back and that means investing in all our neighborhoods.

#106

Posted by **NICHOLAS PAVLISHIN** on **11/25/2024** at **2:50pm** [Comment ID: 128] - [Link](#)

Endorsement

Agree: 0, Disagree: 0

Let's get to work!

#107

Posted by **Richard Mulligan** on **11/25/2024** at **4:13pm** [Comment ID: 131] - [Link](#)

Endorsement

Agree: 0, Disagree: 0

This is sorely needed.

#108

Posted by **Robert Salvino** on **11/19/2024** at **1:48pm** [Comment ID: 60] - [Link](#)

Suggestion

Agree: 1, Disagree: -2

Sell these properties and get them off of city books. If the city doesn't own a property, go after the owners to either invest in or sell off derelict properties. It's not the tax payers responsibility to make a building pretty. Our taxes are to make the city safe from floods, good roads to drive on, and prevent power failure.

#109

Posted by **James Jackson** on **11/19/2024** at **12:21pm** [Comment ID: 42] - [Link](#)

Endorsement

Agree: 2, Disagree: -3

I strongly support this bill--particularly over the suggestion of putting this money in an endowment and dribbling it out in small increments in perpetuity. The neighborhoods touched by this bill are at a crisis point. Investing these funds in a well-planned and impactful way can be the catalyst for people moving into (and staying in) this incredible City. There must be real neighborhoods, shops and markets, and affordable housing to make this work. Along with properly funding SLMPD so that it can staff back up to appropriate levels, and funding the Circuit Attorney's Office so that the norm once again becomes that those who commit crimes are punished, this Plan has the capacity to utterly transform our downtown and nearby communities and capitalize on all of the other terrific features of St. Louis that can make this a magnet for young, talented people and allow current residents to feel good about remaining in the City. I hope you pass this immediately.

#110

Posted by **Richard Mulligan** on **11/25/2024** at **4:15pm** [Comment ID: 133] - [Link](#)

Endorsement

Agree: 0, Disagree: 0

This is needed to drive tourism and downtown business.

#111

Posted by **Robert Salvino** on **11/19/2024** at **3:04pm** [Comment ID: 62] - [Link](#)

Concern

Agree: 4, Disagree: -1

\$20 Million to decorate disinvested neighborhoods does NOTHING to help that neighborhood. Fix the streets, stop the flooding, tear down city owned derelict housing. None of these improvements will last more than a year or two without maintenance. A beautiful neighborhood that the neighbors didn't ask for and the residents are unwilling or unable to maintain is wasteful spending. How many of these homeowners lost thousands of dollars when their sewers flooded back into their homes? Planting flowers at the end of their street doesn't help anyone other than the company the City pays to plant them.

#112

Posted by **Robert Salvino** on **11/19/2024** at **1:46pm** [Comment ID: 59] - [Link](#)

Suggestion

Agree: 1, Disagree: -1

Sell these properties with restrictions/incentives for developers. Take them off the city books and let an investor solve the problem. Spend the money on infrastructure to make the city safe from flooding and power outages.

#113

Posted by **Thomas Brown** on **11/19/2024** at **5:10pm** [Comment ID: 64] - [Link](#)

Endorsement

Agree: 0, Disagree: 0

The money belongs in the ground, it's the best and highest use. I particularly support this in downtown as a necessary hub of activity for the city and its appearance.

#114

Posted by **Robert Salvino** on **11/19/2024** at **3:07pm** [Comment ID: 63] - [Link](#)

Question

Agree: 3, Disagree: -1

Is this enough money to fix these problems? Reallocate the beautification money to this or to neighborhoods that AREN'T disenfranchises. A half a billion dollars should fix a lot of sewer drainage issues and repave the roads. You can repair roads and fix sewers/drainage if you do them all in the proper order. Please, DO NOT WASTE THIS MONEY on pointless acts that residents are unable or unwilling to maintain.

#115

Posted by **Richard Mulligan** on **11/25/2024** at **4:14pm** [Comment ID: 132] - [Link](#)

Endorsement

Agree: 0, Disagree: 0

We need better housing in downtown STL

#116

Posted by **Robert Salvino** on **11/19/2024** at **1:44pm** [Comment ID: 58] - [Link](#)

Concern

Agree: 1, Disagree: -1

Who owns these properties? If the city owns these properties and are not maintaining them or not using them, SELL THE PROPETY! Allow investors who want to see STL prosper to take control. If these properties are NOT owned by the city, have building inspectors and the city manager come down on them with fines or requirements. If a building isn't pretty, that's not our #1 issue. Do not waste money making things pretty.

#117

Posted by **Richard Mulligan** on **11/25/2024** at **4:12pm** [Comment ID: 130] - [Link](#)

Endorsement

Agree: 0, Disagree: 0

This is sorely needed

#118

Posted by **Robert Salvino** on **11/19/2024** at **2:59pm** [Comment ID: 61] - [Link](#)

Concern

Agree: 1, Disagree: -2

There is no legitimate reason to spend money on streetscapes. This is a frivolous request.

#119

Posted by **Robert Salvino** on **11/19/2024** at **1:40pm** [Comment ID: 56] - [Link](#)

Concern

Agree: 2, Disagree: -1

Why are we spending more money on beautification than repair? FIX the infrastructure so we have proper lighting and streets that don't flood. DO NOT spend money fixing sidewalks and streets until you fix the sewers. The sidewalks and streets will be repaired after those MUCH MORE IMPORTANT repairs are completed.

#120

Posted by **Robert Salvino** on **11/19/2024** at **1:42pm** [Comment ID: 57] - [Link](#)

Concern

Agree: 2, Disagree: 0

We do not need a "beautiful" downtown. We need a safe downtown. This includes disenfranchised parts of STL. SAFETY BEFORE BEAUTY.

Also, once the infrastructure is repaired, you can make things as beautiful as you want. Making something pretty only to be destroyed a few years later (downtown Market Street) isn't the way to run a city.

Reply by **Anonymous** on **11/19/2024** at **6:34pm** [Comment ID: 73] - [Link](#)

Concern

Agree: 0, Disagree: 0

Couldn't agree more. St. Louis operates like the person whose roof is leaking and can barely put food on the table, but gets a tax refund and goes out and buys a brand new big screen TV and Xbox.

#121

Posted by **Dominick Del Azodi** on **11/19/2024** at **11:48am** [Comment ID: 26] - [Link](#)

Concern

Agree: 5, Disagree: 0

St Louis regularly misses out on a lot of grant money available through many different public and private agencies. Either because we never applied for it or we didn't have the necessary local match.

Rather than spending all of this money trying to solve these "wicked problems" by ourselves (hint it's not going to work). We should be using this money to fully fund a grant writing office that has a focus on using this money as a local match over the next decade or two in order to vastly increase its impact across our entire city.