

# Article I

---

## Contents

ARTICLE I. GENERAL PROVISIONS ..... I-1

DIVISION 1. IN GENERAL ..... I-1

    Section 30-1.1. Short title..... I-1

    Section 30-1.2. Scope. .... I-1

    Section 30-1.3. Purpose..... I-1

    Section 30-1.4. Objectives. .... I-1

    Section 30-1.5. City of Gainesville Engineering Design and Construction Manual. .... I-2

    Section 30-1.6. Reserved. .... I-2

    Section 30-1.7. Reserved. .... I-2

    Section 30-1.8. Reserved. .... I-2

DIVISION 2 ENFORCEMENT ..... I-2

    Section 30-1.9. Generally. .... I-2

    Section 30-1.10. Compliance with chapter. .... I-3

    Section 30-1.11. Violations and penalties. .... I-3

**ARTICLE I. GENERAL PROVISIONS****DIVISION 1. IN GENERAL**

---

**Section 30-1.1. Short title.**

This chapter shall be known and may be cited as the "Land Development Code of the City of Gainesville."

(Ord. No. 3777, § 1, 6-10-92)

**Section 30-1.2. Scope.**

The provisions of this chapter apply within the entire corporate area of the city to the use of all lands within such area by any person, corporation, other entity or public agency, including the city itself. Property outside the corporate city limits, but adjacent to the city limits, shall be provided protection from the impacts of development in the city as if it were in the city.

(Ord. No. 3777, § 1, 6-10-92; Ord. No. 3955, § 2, 2-14-94)

**Section 30-1.3. Purpose.**

This chapter is created to implement the City of Gainesville Comprehensive Plan (comprehensive plan) adopted November 13, 1991, as amended from time to time. It is also the intent of this chapter to encourage and promote the safety, health, order, convenience, prosperity and general welfare of the citizens in accordance with the comprehensive plan.

(Ord. No. 3777, § 1, 6-10-92; Ord. No. 110175, § 1, 10-20-11)

**Editor's note**— Ord. No. 110175, § 1, adopted Oct. 20, 2011, changed the title of the city's comprehensive plan from the "City of Gainesville 2000-2010 Comprehensive Plan" to the "City of Gainesville Comprehensive Plan." Any references in this Code to the "City of Gainesville 1991-2001 Comprehensive Plan" or the "City of Gainesville 2000-2010 Comprehensive Plan" should be interpreted to mean "City of Gainesville Comprehensive Plan."

**Section 30-1.4. Objectives.**

This chapter is prepared in accordance with and for the promotion of the goals, objectives and policies of the comprehensive plan. The regulations herein are designed to conserve the value of land, building and natural resources; protect the character and maintain the stability of residential, commercial and industrial areas; and provide for efficiency and economy in the process of development through:

- A. Preservation, protection and conservation of significant natural features of land, creeks, lakes, wetlands, uplands and air;
- B. Appropriate use of land;
- C. Regulation of the use and occupancy of buildings, land and water;
- D. Healthful and convenient distribution of population;
- E. Provision of convenient circulation of people and goods and the control of traffic congestion;
- F. Provision of adequate public facilities and utilities;
- G. Protection, enhancement and perpetuation of specific community areas with special character, interest or value representing and reflecting elements of the city's cultural, social, economic, political, historical and architectural heritage;

- H. Establishment of zoning districts regulating the location and use of buildings and other structures, and the use of water and land for trade, industry, residence and other purposes, by regulating and limiting the height, bulk and access to light and air of building and structures, the area of yards and other open spaces and density of use; and
- I. Provision of low cost, efficient and expeditious development review process.

(Ord. No. 3777, § 1, 6-10-92; Ord. No. 3955, § 3, 2-14-94; Ord. No. 4075, § 1, 5-8-95)

**Section 30-1.5. City of Gainesville Engineering Design and Construction Manual.**

The City of Gainesville Engineering Design and Construction Manual is intended to provide detailed design guidelines and specifications for construction of physical improvements in the city. The design manual, adopted by resolution of the city commission, is kept on file in the public works department. The design manual addresses the following:

- A. Selection of environmentally sound practices for the management of stormwater and control of erosion and sedimentation;
- B. Construction specifications for stormwater management facilities, streets, bridges, bikeways, sidewalks, and other physical improvements;
- C. Design criteria for wet and dry detention basins; and
- D. Local rainfall information.

(Ord. No. 960060, § 19, 6-8-98)

**Section 30-1.6. Reserved.**

**Section 30-1.7. Reserved.**

**Section 30-1.8. Reserved.**

**DIVISION 2 ENFORCEMENT**

---

**Section 30-1.9. Generally.**

- A. Enforcing officials. The city manager shall designate such person or persons as may be necessary to administer and enforce the provisions of this chapter.
- B. Authority to enter on private property. Those persons designated to administer and enforce the provisions of this chapter may, in the performance of such functions and duties, enter upon any land and make such inspections, examinations and surveys as are required for the proper administration and enforcement hereof and may obtain any necessary search warrants therefor.
- C. Violations deemed public nuisance. The provisions of this chapter are deemed to be necessary for the protection of the public health, safety and welfare and for the protection of the peaceful use and enjoyment of any lands by the owners thereof, and any violation of the terms of this chapter is declared by the city commission to constitute a public nuisance.
- D. Means of enforcement. The enforcing officials may enforce the terms of this chapter by any or all of the following methods:
  - 1. By initiating criminal prosecution of any violation through the office of the state attorney;

2. By seeking the assistance of the city attorney in initiating an action to enjoin a public nuisance or obtain other civil relief;
3. By revoking a certificate of occupancy as provided by ordinance; or
4. By using any other means specified in any particular article of this chapter or otherwise provided by law or ordinance.

(Ord. No. 3777, § 1, 6-10-92)

**Section 30-1.10. Compliance with chapter.**

It shall be unlawful for any person to make any use of any land, water or building, or part thereof, except in accordance with the requirements of this chapter; to fail to obtain any inspection, approval, permit, certificate or license required by this chapter; or to violate any conditions or requirements lawfully applied to any inspection, approval, permit or license issued hereunder.

(Ord. No. 3777, § 1, 6-10-92)

**Section 30-1.11. Violations and penalties.**

The City may seek penalties and remedies, and employ enforcement powers, as provided by Florida Law for violations of the Land Development Code or related provisions.

(Ord. No. 3777, § 1, 6-10-92)