

# **City of Gainesville**

*City Hall  
200 East University Avenue  
Gainesville, Florida 32601*



## **Meeting Agenda**

**March 13, 2007**

**5:30 PM**

**City Hall Room 16**

## **Regional Utilities Committee**

*Mayor-Commissioner Pro Tem Craig Lowe, Chair  
Commissioner Ed Braddy, Member  
Commissioner Jack Donovan, Member*

*Persons with disabilities who require assistance to participate in this meeting are requested to notify the Office of Equal Opportunity at 334-5051 or call the TDD phone line at 334-2069 at least two business days in advance.*

**CALL TO ORDER****ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA****APPROVAL OF MINUTES****061047. Regional Utilities Committee Meeting Minutes for February 8, 2007 (B)**

**RECOMMENDATION**      *The Regional Utilities Committee approve the minutes for February 8, 2007 as circulated.*

RUC Meeting Minutes 2 8 07.pdf

**COMMITTEE ACTION ITEMS****060659. Downtown Area Wastewater Collection System Master Plan (B)**

*Explanation: Much of the urban core area in Gainesville, including most of the area encompassed by the City's four Community Redevelopment Districts, is served by the gravity sewer system connected to the Main Street Water Reclamation Facility. The gravity collection system serving the urban core provides reliable service and has adequate capacity for current wastewater customers, and for redevelopment projects which are currently proposed. However, future redevelopment in the urban core area may result in the need for major trunk main capacity upgrades in the gravity collection system. The City's wastewater extension policy requires that new developments pay the cost of capacity improvements needed to serve them. It was recognized that in some cases costs for major wastewater collection improvements could become an impediment to redevelopment in the redevelopment districts if funding mechanisms are not developed to assist in the costs for future capacity upgrades.*

*Staff is developing an urban core area wastewater collection master plan. The objectives of this plan are to: 1) Determine existing collection system capacities; 2) Determine available capacity for future growth/redevelopment; 3) Identify collection system capacity improvements, estimated costs and estimated timing; 4) Develop funding mechanisms to assist in paying for capacity improvements; and 5) Implement policies for funding these improvements.*

*The master plan is limited to trunk mains (pipes 12 inches and larger in diameter); costs for smaller "collector" upgrades and extensions will continue to be addressed under current policies.*

*On December 18, 2006 staff presented to the Community Redevelopment Agency (CRA) Board the results of the evaluations of system capacities, required improvements and estimated costs (Items 1-3 above), and presented a*

*preliminary evaluation of potential funding alternatives. The CRA referred this item to the Regional Utilities Committee (RUC) in order to develop specific recommendations for mechanisms and policies to assist in funding future capacity improvements (per Items 4 and 5 above).*

*GRU and General Government staffs have coordinated to develop and evaluate funding alternatives. Staff will present various funding alternatives and provide recommendations for funding future wastewater trunk main collection system capacity improvements necessary to serve future redevelopment in the redevelopment districts.*

*Fiscal Note: The estimated cost for future gravity trunk main wastewater collection system capacity upgrades over the next 5 to 10 years is approximately \$2 to \$4 million. The timing of construction and incurring of costs for these upgrades will be determined based on capacity needs of future redevelopment projects. No improvements are required based on the development projects that are proposed at this time. Staff will make budget recommendations for improvements as timelines for capacity needs become better defined.*

**RECOMMENDATION**

*The Regional Utilities Committee hear a presentation from staff on the urban core area wastewater collection system master plan and make the following recommendations to the City Commission: 1) GRU amend existing policy for those wastewater projects in the urban core to use general ratepayer funds to address downtown sewer slopes that cause capacity constraints; and 2) direct the City Attorney to prepare and the City Clerk to advertise an ordinance to implement the levelized connection charges; 3) use the revenue from levelized connection charges to fund 40% of the cost of projects to add collection system capacity to meet increased flows from development. The remaining 60% will be the responsibility of the developer. In the interest of promoting development in and around the urban core, the City Commission, in conjunction with the CRA, may choose to use sources other than ratepayer funds or general connection charges to buy down these costs further on a project-by-project basis; and 4) remove this item from the referral list.*

**Legislative History**

10/23/06	City Commission	Referred (6 - 0 - 1 Absent)	Community Redevelopment Agency
12/18/06	Community Redevelopment Agency	Approved, as shown above	(Main Motion) (7 - 0)
12/18/06	Community Redevelopment Agency	Referred	Regional Utilities Committee
1/29/07	Community Redevelopment Agency	Referred	General Manager for Utilities

1/29/07 Community Redevelopment Agency Referred City Manager  
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 Backup to RUC item #060659 3 13 07.pdf

**060168.****Review of Current Standards for Construction, Retrofit and Maintenance of City Buildings (NB)**

**RECOMMENDATION**      *The Regional Utilities Committee receive an update from staff.*

**Legislative History**

6/12/06	City Commission	Referred (7 - 0)	Regional Utilities Committee
6/12/06	City Commission	Referred	General Manager for Utilities
6/13/06	City Commission	Referred	City Manager
9/20/06	Regional Utilities Committee	Deferred	
10/12/06	Regional Utilities Committee	Discussed	
11/27/06	City Commission	Approved as Recommended (7 - 0)	

**061048.****Regional Utilities Committee Outstanding Referral Items (NB)**

*Explanation: On February 12, 2007 staff made a presentation to the City Commission regarding first quarter results of efforts to achieve maximum energy efficiency, including a presentation by Mr. Mark van Soestbergen regarding Compact Fluorescent Lighting pilot program implemented with the University of Florida and GRU and comments from Pastor Steve Matchett of the Action Network regarding energy efficiency. Information included in the presentation dealt with several Regional Utilities Committee outstanding referrals. As a result staff requests that the RUC consider requesting that the City Commission remove these referrals from the list.*

**RECOMMENDATION**      *The Regional Utilities Committee request that the City Commission remove the following items from the outstanding referral list: 1) #060671 - Special Assessment District Energy Conservation Programs; 2) #051193 - Establishment of a Financing Program for Renewable Energy systems; and 3) #050905 - Assimilation and Evaluation of DSM Options.*

**MEMBER COMMENT**

**CITIZEN COMMENT**

**OUTSTANDING REFERRALS****060775. Impact of Tiered Rates on People With Low Income Levels**Legislative History

11/27/06 City Commission Referred (7 - 0) Regional Utilities  
Committee

**060627. Energy Efficiency Update**Legislative History

10/23/06 City Commission Referred (6 - 0 - 1 Absent) Regional Utilities  
Committee

11/9/06 Regional Utilities Deferred  
Committee

1/24/07 Regional Utilities Deferred  
Committee

2/8/07 Regional Utilities Discussed  
Committee

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Appliance Survey 2006 backup.pdf

**060294.**Legislative History

7/25/06 City Commission Referred (7 - 0) Regional Utilities  
Committee

**060274. Digital Downtown Referral**Legislative History

7/17/06 City Commission Referred (7 - 0) Regional Utilities  
Committee

10/12/06 Regional Utilities Discussed  
Committee

2/8/07 Regional Utilities Discussed  
Committee

**051194 GRU Wholesale Sales of Electricity**

Legislative History

4/12/06	City Commission	Referred (7 - 0)	Regional Utilities Committee
6/8/06	Regional Utilities Committee	Discussed	

**050850****Wastewater Service to the City of Archer**Legislative History

2/13/06	City Commission	Approved as shown above and Referred (6 - 0 - 1 Absent)	Regional Utilities Committee
2/22/06	Regional Utilities Committee	Recommended for Approval, as shown above	
2/27/06	City Commission	Approved, as shown above (Motions)	
9/20/06	Regional Utilities Committee	Discussed	
1/24/07	Regional Utilities Committee	Discussed	

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doug drymon letter.pdf

**050457****Streetlights and Electric Rates**Legislative History

9/26/05	City Commission	Approved as Recommended and Referred (6 - 0 - 1 Absent)	Regional Utilities Committee
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**NEW BUSINESS****NEXT MEETING DATE**

**The meeting of April 12, 2007 is cancelled. The next meeting is scheduled for May 10, 2007.**

**ADJOURNMENT**