



▶ SPOTLIGHT ON GPD
CRIME ANALYSIS
UNIT 2



▶ CITY PREPARES TO
PROVIDE SERVICE TO
SW 20TH AVE 6



▶ SOLAR FEED-IN-TARIFF
PROGRAM 9

○ QUARTER 2 | ○ FISCAL YEAR 2009



Strategic Plan

Quarterly Report

ADDRESSING THE NEEDS OF GAINESVILLE RESIDENTS AND PLANTING THE SEEDS FOR A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE.

Strategic Plan Update

Over the past six months, there has been significant opportunities for communication between staff responsible for the implementation of the City's Strategic Plan, City residents, and the City Commission.

On November 6, 2008 the City Commission approved the assignment of a Sponsoring Commissioner to many of the Strategic Initiatives. As a result, there has been communication between staff and the Sponsoring Commissioner on many of the strategic initiatives to further enhance and guide the direction of the City's Strategic Plan.

Another opportunity for enhanced communication occurred over a three month period this Winter. Each strategic initiative was presented to the appropriate Commission Standing Committee, which provided an opportunity for direct communication.

In addition, the City Commission held a Strategic Planning Workshop on February 9, 2009 where the Commission discussed modifications to the Strategic Plan. Two new strategic initiatives were proposed for FY 2010 in the area of code compliance and weatherization.



City Commission Strategic Planning Workshop

INITIATIVE WATCH RECOVERY.GOV

The distribution of funding flowing from the 2009 Federal American Recovery and Reinvestment Act is allocated to communities that are best prepared to implement shovel-ready projects. Previously established City Commission Strategic Initiatives enabled the City of Gainesville to qualify for the following grants:

PUBLIC SAFETY <i>Develop & continue programs to reduce the causes of crime</i>	Byrne Justice Assistance Grant For public safety equipment, such as radios.	\$449,000
INFRASTRUCTURE & TRANSPORTATION <i>Support the reconstruction of transportation facilities to encourage redevelopment of 6th Street</i>	Highway Infrastructure Investment Provides funding for the 6th Street Rail Trail	\$1,000,000
HUMAN CAPITAL <i>Continue Implementation of the 10 year plan to end homelessness</i>	Homelessness Prevention For services rendered and the one stop homeless center	\$567,000
	Community Development Block Grant Provides funding for homeless shelters	\$371,000
ENVIRONMENT & ENERGY <i>Improve the energy efficiency of modest-income homes through weatherization</i>	 Energy Efficiency & Conservation Block Grant GRU rebates and city efficiency improvement projects	\$1,200,000

Public Safety

Maintain a safe and healthy community in which to live.

Develop and continue programs to reduce the causes of crime



GPD Crime Analysis Unit

During the second quarter, the Gainesville Police Department (GPD) has implemented new crime analysis techniques to develop and continue programs to reduce the causes of crime.

Crime Analysts are working in partnership with the Alachua County Sheriff's Office (ASO) to share crime analysis information on suspects, crime bulletins and alerting each other with regards to crime sprees and patterns. As a result of this partnership there has been an increase in arrests and identification of suspects. Additionally, the Crime Analysts are establishing a County-wide model to distribute crime analysis

information to neighboring agencies.

During this quarter, GPD Officers have also utilized information from crime analysis snapshots to conduct directed patrols in problem areas. Officers then initiated directed patrols to deal with on-going juvenile gang violence and illegal narcotics activity in and around the Gardenia Gardens Apartments area.

In another proactive effort to reduce the causes of crime, GPD deployed special details to the Florida Invitational Step Show and Gatnationals weekends. GPD also deployed directed patrols to police events that drew substantial crowds to the downtown area.

To prevent crime in Gainesville neighborhoods, College Park residents were trained as Citizens on Patrol during the second quarter. They helped distribute flyers in the neighborhood following a residential burglary spree during college spring break in March.

CRITICAL SUCCESS MEASURES

During this quarter, GPD:

- Responded to 31,000 calls for service
- Initiated 13 gang/firearm investigations with the Tactical Impact Unit (TIU)
- Hired 12 new police officers
- Provided 364 students with personal safety information around university bars
- The Party Patrol responded to approximately 600 calls for service relating to late night noise issues

Ensure that there are appropriate staff levels for police and fire and review the deployment of staff

Seven new police officer positions, one sergeant position and one Police Service Technician position have been created to provide service to the SW 20th Avenue Annexation Area that becomes part of the City effective June 1, 2009. Subsequent to an agreement with the City Budget office on the timeline of funding for the SW 20th Avenue positions, six (6) of the police officer positions were filled on March 9th, the Sergeant position is slated to be filled on June 1st, and the remaining police officer and Police Service Technician positions are slated to be filled on October 4th.

The City Commission authorized staff to submit an application for grant funding for police officers through the federal COPS Hiring Recovery Program authorized as part of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009. This program provides 100% funding for three years and does not require a local match. Although the program appears to provide greater flexibil-

ity in recognition of challenging fiscal times, there is concern about the City's eligibility based on the City's existing COPS grants.

New Fire Station 8 is currently projected to open in August 2010. Staffing for the fire station will result in thirteen new firefighter positions. The new station will allow faster response to calls for service in the new station's service area and help maintain Gainesville Fire Rescue's (GFR) overall response times. In the past, the City submitted applications for federal Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response (SAFER) grants to support new firefighter positions. The federal stimulus provided no new funding but did temporarily waive the requirement for matching funds for SAFER grants. The City will continue to pursue SAFER grant funds.

Discussions continue with GPD and GFR on the strategic initiative. A work group composed of

representatives of GPD, GFR, Administrative Services and the City Manager's Office will review GPD and GFR studies on staffing levels and attempt to identify and determine the impact of key drivers on future staffing needs.



Firefighters attack a burning structure

Economic Development

& Redevelopment

Foster economic development and encourage redevelopment

Increase the amount of affordable housing throughout the City

On December 18, 2008, the City Commission received and accepted the SHIP Affordable Housing Advisory Committee's (AHAC) Incentives and Recommendations Report, and further discussed the report with the SHIP AHAC on February 19, 2009. As required by the SHIP Program, the incentive recommendations are required to be incorporated in the City's Local Housing Assistance Plan (LHAP), and adopted by resolution by the City Commission. As a result, on March 19th, the City Commission adopted Resolution #080870 to amend the City's LHAP to incorporate the local housing incentive strategies it will implement as a part of the affordable housing plan. Attached for reference is a copy of the ap-

proved SHIP AHAC Recommendation Summary and the amended LHAP FY 2009-2011 (In Draft). Note: The incentives approved by the City Commission are noted in blue underlined text in the LHAP document.

The City has submitted its amended LHAP to the Florida Housing Finance Corporation and is awaiting final approval. All statutory SHIP Program deadlines have been met for this process. In the interim, the SHIP AHAC will continue to meet and review housing and other related planning issues to implement and monitor their affordable housing recommendation plan.



Model Block Home

Continue to position City to take advantage of innovation economy and identify plan for innovation zone near the University

During the 2nd quarter, staff continued to work with the Gainesville Technology Enterprise Center (GTEC) Management on growth and development of existing companies. Several opportunities were pursued within proximity to the University and staff level meetings were conducted with the University of Florida on future plans for the Alachua General Hospital (AGH) site.

Improve coordination with Alachua County in order to more effectively plan and develop Gainesville's Urban Reserve Area

During the second quarter, the Orderly Annexation Team met to discuss potential East Gainesville annexation opportunities and prioritized several areas.

Staff later met with the Community Development Committee to discuss the manner in which Strategic Ecosystems are handled within the context of annexation activities and a new approach was approved by the Committee and referred to the full Commission for final action

Continue to remove barriers; Consolidate layers of regulation and consider expanding team to include outside representation



EAR Logo

During the second quarter, the Planning Department went live with the Innoprise Electronic Plan Management System. Currently,

internal use of the product by planning staff is assisting with logging, filing and tracking of projects. Building and Code Enforcement are working on configuration issues with the vendor. It is hoped that a level of functionality will be achieved in the third quarter by all operational areas.

During the second quarter, the Request for Proposals went out for consulting services regarding the Land Development Code and Comprehensive Plan. It is anticipated based upon pre-bid meetings and interest expressed

by prospective vendors that the staff will receive several strong proposals in the third quarter. Review of proposals and awarding of bid is anticipated in the third quarter.

Staff continues to interact with the development community through the monthly Builder's Association of North Central Florida (BANCF) and in other forums on the existing development review process and opportunities for improvement.

Economic Development

Foster economic development and encourage redevelopment

& Redevelopment

Complete the implementation of the Strategic Redevelopment Plan for Depot Park

The landscape architect for the overall park design and the preservation architect for the Depot Building has been selected and approved. Concurrently, a study of the existing stormwater ponds designs is underway.



Complete the implementation of the Southeast Gainesville Renaissance Initiative (SEGRI Project)

The SEGRI Special Area Plan will be on the City Plan Board Agenda for consideration on April 23, 2009. The Kennedy Homes Request for Proposals (RFP) is ready for issuance in the third quarter of FY 2009.

Complete the implementation of the Strategic Redevelopment Plan for GRU Area

The general master plan has been completed.

The next steps include:

- Determine how to move forward with the public rights of ways.
- Create a timeline for phasing the redevelopment process.
- Develop a partner coalition.



CRA 2008 Annual Report is In!

[Click here](#) to view the 2008 Annual Report which covers all activities of the CRA from October 1, 2007 to September 30, 2008.

www.GainesvilleCRA.com



PLANTING THE SEEDS OF SUCCESS.

Gainesville Community
Redevelopment Agency
2008 Annual Report

Human Capital

Assist every person to reach their true potential

Continue implementation of the 10-year plan to end homelessness

During the second quarter, staff continued the discussion with stakeholders and homeless providers about maintaining existing services and reviewing opportunities to expand services in the City/County. The Housing & Community Development Division and the City Manager's Office are the lead agencies.

There is on-going collaboration via an inter-local agreement between the City, County and the Alachua County Housing Authority to provide services related to the oversight and implementation of the City/County 10-Year Plan to End Homelessness. This Plan includes the preparation and issuance of a RFP for the establishment of a one-stop homeless assistance center. The Alternative Site Selection Workgroup continues to meet and discuss an interim One Stop Center plan and the One Stop Center location.

The 2009 Point in Time Survey has been completed, where 1,600 homeless persons were identified. A copy of the report has been shared with

all stakeholders including City & County staff.

The Alachua County/City of Gainesville Office on Homelessness submitted an application to Alachua County for NSP Funds in the amount of \$500,000 for the One Stop Homeless Assistance Center. The application is pending the City & County / Office on Homelessness having site control over the land.

The City of Gainesville received notification that it had been awarded \$567,404 in Homeless Prevention Funds for Homeless Services. City staff is working to identify the eligible projects for the funds. The City of Gainesville City Commission must determine how these funds will be spent for Homeless Services.



Volunteers serve food at Homeless Night Out

Explore the potential for addressing senior issues and services

During the second quarter, the following progress was made on the Senior Center:

- The proposed level of services has been identified and are defined by:
 - The size of the building, hours of operations, programs, cost of operating and, staffing the facility.
- Cost estimates are being developed for each level of service.
- A list of city facilities is being developed including the location & size of the facilities.
- The minimum size for a Senior Center has been established between 8,000 to 12,000 square feet.
- The City Commission will review the information and determine what level of services it will be establishing for this community.

Analyze the availability and accessibility of youth



Youth Camp attendee

On January 15th, Cpt. Tony Jones and the chair of the Summer Heatwave Committee, Rhonda Stroman, presented the final results of the 2008 Summer Heatwave program and received approval from the City Commission for: 150 summer camp scholarships per week for six weeks; \$9,000 in-kind services for GPD overtime to support Operation Respect Yourself Summer Events; and postponed a request for \$9,000 from the Contingency Fund for RTS passes for Heatwave youth.

The first Stakeholders Team met on January 22nd to discuss establishing a Youth Commission. Gretchen Howard with the State Attorney's Office presented an update on Juvenile Delinquency in Alachua County and focused specifically on factors that prevent delinquency. The following ideas were significant:

- Mentor youth to become basketball officials and/or provide assistance with getting jobs.
- An explanation of the GAP Analysis Gretchen Howard performed.
- An update on the Alachua County Juvenile Prevention Report to determine how we can work together.
- Approach the Rotary Clubs for grant assistance and/or identify others who are willing to seek funding for youth programs.

On March 4th, a Town Hall meeting on Juvenile Crime was held in conjunction with the Black on Black Crime Task Force and the Reichert House, with over 200 people present. Staff from the Florida Department of Juvenile Justice and the National Organization of Black Law Enforcement Officers attended as well, to discuss disproportionate minority contact in the criminal justice system.

Streamline the efforts of those agencies providing child victim services

During the last quarter a minimum of 10 meetings were held in the interest of advancing this initiative. These meetings were conducted with potential partners and key agencies who the City would want to have involved with a Center which focuses on Child Victim and Domestic Violence Victim needs, services, and intervention. All potential partner agencies were supportive of this initiative and have agreed to supply personnel from their agencies to the proposed Center. At this point, the City of Gainesville and the other agencies are initiating talks about possible locations for the center.



Government Effectiveness

Continue to increase the effectiveness of local government and maintain a strong fiscal condition

& Fiscal Responsibility

Continue annexation effort in the urbanized area in order to maintain social, economic, and financial diversity



During the second quarter, there was a variety of activity related to annexation:

- In preparation for the June 1, 2009 effective date for the SW 20th Avenue annexation area, City staff has held two organizational meetings in regards to providing municipal services to this area.
- A presentation for the possible annexation of the Tower Oaks neighborhood was made to the Board of Directors of their Homeowners Association.
- City staff presented this initiative to the Community Development Committee and received valuable comments and feedback.

In addition, two voluntary petitions for annexation have been accepted by the City Commission and the preliminary boundaries for the Eastside referendum for annexation have been determined. The Annexation Transition Agreement (ATA) Orderly Annexation Team reviewed these boundaries in the second quarter and agreed to the proposed areas.

The Countywide Visioning and Planning Committee's recommended changes to the Boundary Adjustment Act were introduced as a House Bill in the Florida Legislature by Representative Chuck Chestnut (Dem – Dist. 23). The bill is schedule to be heard on April 1st by the Economic Development and Community Affairs Policy Council.

Review alternative strategies to increase civic engagement and responsibility, and the City's responsiveness

On February 9th, the City Commission held a Strategic Planning workshop at Ironwood Golf Course. During this workshop, the Commissioners agreed to conduct a series of town hall meetings, one in each City district, to encourage feedback from citizens on the City's upcoming budget and Evaluation and Appraisal report for the Comprehensive Plan. City staff began the planning for these events in the second quarter, with the first meetings' set for April 24th (EAR Kick-off) and May 4th (Town Hall Meeting in District 1).

On March 24th, city residents that are registered voters participated in the election of two City Commissioners – the District One representative and At-Large One representative. In addition, city voters had the opportunity to vote on two local charter amendments. Voter turnout was higher than typical – over 26% of registered voters participated.

The Citizens Academy, which is coordinated by the Communications Office, will begin on April 1st, with approximately 20 residents registered to participate. The six week course will be held on Wednesday mornings, and cover topics such as public safety, energy supply, and infrastructure projects.

The Communications Office continues to update the City's web site, and program Channel 12, so citizens will have continual access to government information and activities. The City's Municipal Minutes Newsletter was disseminated to over 487 email addresses each month of the first quarter. In addition, the City Manager's and the Clerk's Office are continuing to work on the suggested changes published in Karen Johnson's "Streamlining Gainesville Government", which was released in the Summer of 2008.

Develop a strategy for e-commerce

During the second quarter of FY09, the Project CLIC team finalized its project timeline and scope. The team continued to evaluate opportunities to move transactions online for e-commerce by narrowing the field of potential transactions.

The team reviewed financial information and performed a transactional-level analysis. Additionally, data from 19 other municipalities across the state of Florida were compiled and reviewed to determine the scope of e-commerce activities in other cities.

Improve communication through increase use of the Internet for City services



Web Portal

Internal Communications Advisory Group, worked to complete development of a new Intranet platform based on Microsoft SharePoint Services 3.0 to replace the original City Employee Intranet portal. The new intranet portal can be viewed at: <http://ggsp/default.aspx>. Enhancements include: improved site architecture; decentralized content management at

the department level; increased file sharing capability; a more robust site search engine; and, an internal organization calendar. The site was officially deployed on April 27, 2009.

During the second quarter, the City's Internet Portal main page was consistently used to inform the public about upcoming events and activities. Signature events or high priority items appeared as Flash animations in the website masthead and included: the State of the City Address; the Hoggtown Medieval Faire; and City Elections. The Spotlight section of the main page featured events that departments preferred to highlight, such as: program announcements (i.e., Citizens' Academy); special department events, community outreach initiatives, and cultural activities. Progress on additional website development initiatives has been adversely impacted by decreased personnel resources within the Communications Office during the second quarter, FY 2009.

Infrastructure & Transportation

Invest in community infrastructure and continue to enhance the transportation network and systems

Complete capital projects at parks—improve programs; Develop land conservation and acquisition program

During this quarter, there were significant coordination efforts with Alachua County Trust (ACT) and Alachua County Forever staff on developing agreements to address the land acquisition portion of the Wild Spaces Public Places (WSPP) funding.

There were a number of actions that occurred in the second quarter regarding the renovations, improvements and development of active and passive recreational properties and facilities. First, the department developed an implementation plan to address this portion of the WSPP funding. Staff has been designated to coordinate project development, and a task force comprised of City staff has been formed to help assist in expediting the completion process. An update was presented to the City Commission in February giving a status update on the WSPP funding and projects. During that update, the City Commission gave approval to proceed with select projects: Thomas Center Building "A" renovations, Northeast Park trail resurfacing, Northeast and Westside pool improvements, and Smokey Bear Park acquisition. Lastly, funding has been made available for the Senior Recreation Center construction at Northside Park and land acquisition of targeted environmentally sensitive lands.



Cofrin Nature Park

Support the reconstruction of transportation facilities to encourage redevelopment of 6th Street



Intersection of University & N.W. 6th Street

The design of Phase One for the 6th Street Rail Trail and SW 2nd Avenue/6th Street Roundabout projects was carried from 30% level to 95% level of completion. During the second quarter, 90% level plans were presented to the City Commission. The 2009 Federal American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) funding has been earmarked for the rail trail project. The SW 2nd Avenue Roundabout project will be constructed as a separate project, since ARRA funds cannot be used on a project in which right of way is being acquired.

The design phase of the rail trail Phase Two has been initiated.

Support the reconstruction of transportation facilities to encourage redevelopment of Depot Avenue

The project is divided into the following segments and progress will be reported by segment:

Segment 1: SW 13th Street to just west of SW 11th Street

No further progress to report this quarter.

Segment 2: SW 11th Street to Main Street

The plans are approximately 60%. The Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) has begun the right of way (ROW) acquisition required for the roundabout at SW 11th St. The design and ROW acquisition are only partially funded. The design team is working with City Parks and Recreation to pursue locating a stormwater pond on the Tumblin Creek Park site. Due to the short-fall in funding, the design team is investigating the possibility of breaking out the roundabout at SW 11th St in an effort to build that part of the project sooner.

Segment 3: Main Street to just west of SE 7th Street
Design is completed. The bid date is scheduled for April 21, 2009. Construction is expected to begin in July '09.

Segment 4: SE 7th Street to Williston Road

No further progress to report this quarter.



Depot Avenue Capital Improvement Project Segments

Environment & Energy

Protect and sustain our natural environment and address future energy needs

Review the status of commercial recycling ordinances and enforcement and determine if changes are needed

During the second quarter, the Solid waste Division Inspectors continued educating business owners on the aspects and expectations of the commercial recycling requirements. Also, the Solid Waste Division, after review of other communities' ordinances, suggested that the City should establish a system of fines using a multi-tiered basis that would tie the amount of the fine to the square footage of the business. A first time offense might result in a fine of \$100, \$250 or \$500 depending on how large the business is. The Solid Waste Division recommended that there also be a sliding scale so that repeat offenses result in higher fines.

Staff also asked that consideration be given to the following proposals:

- The ordinance should require haulers to provide whatever level of recycling is required whether the business wants the service or not.
- The hauler should be required to provide whatever level of recycling is needed at no additional charge.
- The entity taking responsibility for providing garbage service should also be responsible for providing the necessary recycling service. (This would address situations where the landlord of a small strip of businesses provides one or two garbage dumpsters, but does not provide recycling service. The current City ordinance does not require the landlord to do so; it requires the business generating the trash and recycling to do so.)

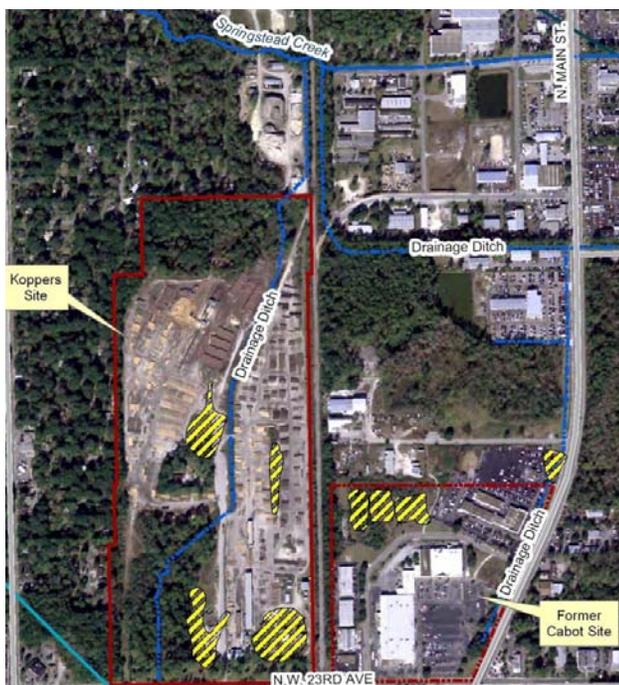
- Applications for an Occupational License should require the business to complete a form describing their anticipated waste stream and recycling stream. A copy of that form should be sent to the Solid Waste Division to trigger an inspection, and no permit should be issued until the Solid Waste Division signs off on the garbage and recycling arrangements.

These and other ordinance changes may be forthcoming as more of the expectations of the State's 2020 initiative to reduce solid waste are made known.



Commercial Recycling Bin

Monitor the progress of the clean-up of Cabot Carbon/Koppers Superfund Site



Aerial View of Cabot / Koppers Site

The City Commission conducted a Special City Commission meeting on March 9th, to hear information on future Land Use & Clean-up standards.

- The City Commission directed staff to engage Beazer East, Inc. & Koppers, Inc. in a discussion on the future land use for the Koppers Superfund site.
- A letter dated April 1st was mailed to Beazer East, Inc. which invited them to meet with city staff to discuss the future land use of Koppers Superfund site.
- Koppers, Inc. and Beazer East, Inc. have agreed to meet with city staff on May 28th for the preliminary discussion on the future land use for the site.
- Upon successful outlining ground work for the public discussion, staff will notify the City Commission and the further discussions will begin.
- Staff and the consultant continue to develop and provide comments on the feasibility study.

As of April 16th, Koppers is in the process of excavating stormwater ditches on the site in an effort to address pollutants contained in stormwater runoff from the site. Beazer is conducting pilot testing of soil solidification remediation techniques at the site. Staff continues to be engaged and provide comment on work plans and data from the site.

Environment & Energy

Protect and sustain our natural environment and address future energy needs

Develop a coordinated response at the local level to address energy policy and climate change

GRU and General Government staff are working together to develop a strategy and proposed plan for Commission approval for use of \$1.2 million in federal stimulus funding the City will receive through the Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant.

Gainesville Regional Utilities

- Complied results for first quarter conservation program implementation:
 - 1,215 kilowatts of demand reduction
 - 5,670 megawatt-hours per year of reduced energy consumption
- Implemented the first utility Solar Feed-In-Tariff in the USA:
 - Over 12,000 watts of capacity reservation to date
 - Entertained delegation from the European Photovoltaic Industry Association
- Developed a Forest Stewardship Incentive Plan:
 - Design assures sustainable supplies of fuel for the proposed biomass plant while protecting forest values.
 - The first in the USA to use financial incentives to promote forest stewardship.



Ceremonial signing of Solar Feed-In-Tariff ordinance

General Government



Eco-friendly LED traffic light

- Submission to achieve the Florida Green Local Government Standard is being finalized. An analysis was performed identifying green standards applicable to Gainesville to determine which standards the City currently meets and actions required to achieve standards not met. Required documentation confirming the City meets specific standards is being compiled prior to submission for designation.
- All field hardware for Phase 1 of the Transportation Management System has been installed and Phase 2 field hardware installation is 69% complete.
- Commercial recycling tonnage for the first half of FY 09 is at the same pace as last year at 2,740 tons; however, due to the economic downturn, it is expected that this number will not increase over the previous year.
- RTS ridership is down 0.3% from last year at this time at 5,083,893. Meeting the goal of an increase of 760,000 riders by 2010 is questionable at this time.
- 4,478 LED traffic signal indicators have been installed representing 60% of the total. No further funding is available; staff is exploring potential use of federal stimulus funding.
- Public Works has been tasked with conducting a pilot study on the feasibility of LED outdoor lighting and has been working with GRU.
- Two potential areas have been identified including the City Hall Parking Lot and CRA installed globe lighting along SE 1st St between SE 1st Ave and SE 2nd Place. Initial cost estimates have been developed and a study period of 2 years is expected.



Florida Green Building Coalition Logo

Partnerships

Champion effective and institutionalized relationships with other government entities and community partners

Formalize relationships with other community partners

During the second quarter, staff joined the new International Town and Gown Association based in Clemson, South Carolina as an avenue to share ideas with other college communities. This includes regular electronic newsletters and member listserv.

Regular monthly meetings are being held with UF’s Assistant Vice President of Community Relations to promote regular sharing of information, issues and opportunities. Communications at these meetings resulted in the scheduling of a meeting which will be held in May focused on exploration of sustainability as a key partnership opportunity. Staff working on sustainability for our community partners including UF, Santa Fe College, Alachua County, the School Board of Alachua County and others will participate. The meeting will explore how we can best work together to align our efforts and learn from each other to become a more sustainable community. A similar communication sharing opportunity has been established with Alachua County and will be established with SFC.

Staff continue to work on other key partnership opportunities besides sustainability including: 1) economic development - overlap with Initiative 2.5 to take advantage of innovation economy and plan for Innovation Zone near UF, 2) Education – overlap with Initiative 8.2 to increase involvement of City in improving quality of local schools”, 3) Transit and 4) Hospitality Districts.

An online tool has been shared with the City that provides names and contact information for experts from UF in a wide range of fields.



Increase involvement of the City in improving the quality of City schools

A work group including the following representatives has been confirmed:

CITY OF GAINESVILLE:
Paul Folkers Assistant City Manager
Michelle Park Assistant Director, Parks, Recreation & Cultural Affairs
Tony Jones Community Relations Coordinator, GPD
ALACHUA COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS:
Phil Wright Assistant to the Superintendent
Dr. Sandi Anusavice Director of Secondary Curriculum and School Improvement

The Work Group will get underway in May. There may be future opportunities to broaden involvement in this initiative by encouraging the participation of other organizations.

When completed, a peer review will identify best practices and innovative efforts. The Work Group will continue research to identify model communities and promising initiatives. The Work Group will also review and identify opportunities to reinvigorate and sustain the Raising ‘Canes Program with Gainesville High School.

The Co-Champions of Strategic Initiative 3.3 to “Analyze the Availability and Accessibility of Youth Programs and Identify a Role for City Government” have been included on the Work Group for this Strategic Initiative to best coordi-

nate overlapping issues and opportunities. Coordination will also take place with the champion of Strategic Initiative 4.3 to “Review Alternative Strategies to Increase Civic Engagement and Responsibility, and City’s Responsiveness” as needed.



Gainesville High School

City of Gainesville, Office of Strategic Planning
 City Hall, 200 East University Avenue
 P.O. Box 490, Station 13
 Gainesville, FL 32602