

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PLAN**  
**FOR THE**  
**EVALUATION AND APPRAISAL REPORT 080647**  
**ON THE 2000-2010 CITY OF GAINESVILLE**  
**COMPREHENSIVE PLAN**

The following outline details the public participation plan for the Evaluation and Appraisal Report (EAR) on the City of Gainesville's Comprehensive Plan.

The EAR is the first step in updating a comprehensive plan, and it is intended to:

- Identify major issues for the community
- Review past actions of the local government in implementing the comprehensive plan since the last EAR
- Assess degree to which plan objectives have been met
- Assess successes and shortcomings of the plan
- Identify how the plan should be changed
- Respond to changing conditions and trends affecting the community
- Respond to the need for new data
- Respond to changes in State of Florida requirements re: growth management and development
- Respond to changes in regional plans
- Ensure effective intergovernmental coordination

In the previous EAR completed in September 1998, the process was heavily weighted towards an element-by-element analysis as required by applicable state requirements, and not an issue-by-issue analysis. The Florida Department of Community Affairs (DCA) has since revised its requirements so that major issues that affect a community's ability to achieve its goals must be thoroughly evaluated in the EAR. Each element is only required to be briefly evaluated for its successes and shortcomings beyond the required evaluation of policies specifically pertaining to major issues. However, this is an opportunity to do a more in-depth analysis of the plan elements to help prepare for the post-EAR update of the comprehensive plan.

Staff proposes an extensive public participation process that provides for evaluation of major issues and of comprehensive plan elements in the upcoming EAR. The public participation process may be summarized as follows:

- Major issues will be identified, and will be reviewed along with related comprehensive plan policies in public workshops.
- A second set of public workshops will focus on the 15 elements (including the new Public School Facilities Element).
- The City's website will be used extensively to advertise workshops and public hearings, share EAR-related documents, and collect comments from the public.
- Workshops will be advertised in a newspaper of general circulation and publicized in the City's Notice of Meetings.

- Television Channel 12 and other resources of the City's Communications & Marketing Department will be used to promote public participation in the EAR.
- Develop a basic PowerPoint for use in presentations on the EAR to community groups/organizations (e.g., school groups, college/university organizations). Such presentations are an opportunity to increase public participation in the EAR and to explain the importance of city planning to quality of life in Gainesville.
- Following the workshops on the major issues and comprehensive plan elements, the draft EAR will be presented to the City Plan Board at a public hearing, in which the Plan Board will make a recommendation to the City Commission.
- The draft EAR will be presented to the City Commission in August or September 2010. The Commission may choose one of the following options:
  - adopt it and transmit it to the FL Department of Community Affairs for required review, or
  - send it to DCA as a draft and request comments from DCA (and other review agencies). In this case, adoption hearing must be held by November 1, 2010.

## **EAR Public Participation Plan**

### **December 2008**

- **Plan Board meeting – December 8, 2008**
  - **Plan Board receives draft EAR Public Participation Plan**
- **City Commission meeting – December 18, 2008**
  - **City Commission receives draft EAR Public Participation Plan**

### **January or February 2009**

- **Plan Board Workshop**
  - **Review EAR Public Participation Plan**
  - **Review Major Issues from 1998 EAR**
  - **Identify 2010 EAR Major Issues (all elements)**

### **February/March 2009**

- **Begin drafting Major Issues**

### **March or April 2009**

- **Plan Board Workshop**
  - **Review draft Major Issues**
  - **Discuss impact of Major Issues on Comprehensive Plan Elements**

### **April or May 2009**

- **Hold scoping meeting (optional, but highly recommended by DCA. Invite Alachua County and municipalities, NCFRPC, WMDs, FDOT, UF, Water Management Districts, Gainesville Regional Airport, and GRU.**
  - **Discuss scope of EAR.**

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- Discuss proposed major issues.
- Get input as to major issues from participating agencies.
- Get input as to pertinent data from participating agencies

**May/June 2009**

- **Revise draft of Major Issues based on input from scoping meeting**

**July - October 2009**

- **Public workshops (at a *minimum*: one each in NW, NE, SW and SE)**
  - **NW: Millhopper Library, Westside Park**
  - **NE: City Hall, Bolton Center, Ironwood Clubhouse**
  - **SW: Doyle Connor Center**
  - **SE: T. B. McPherson Center**
  - **(Note: Above-listed sites subject to change)**
- **Get input on major issues at these workshops**

**October/November 2009**

- **Hold workshop with City Plan Board**
- **Hold workshop with City Commission**
- **Finalize Major Issues**

**November/December 2009**

- **Send DCA the identified major issues, and request letter expressing DCA's agreement with the selected topics.**
  - **Requested Letter of Understanding from DCA is optional, but recommended in order to help minimize any misunderstandings when DCA reviews EAR for sufficiency following adoption**
- **Incorporate major issues into Draft EAR**

**January 2010 - May 2010**

- **Hold public workshops on comprehensive plan elements and major issues**
- **Provide Plan Board a brief status report each month**
- **Hold Plan Board workshops if and as needed**

**June 2010**

- **EAR public hearing by Plan Board**

**August 5, 2010 – October 21, 2010**

- **City Commission EAR Public Hearing (consider adoption hearing provided it is on or after August 5, 2010, which allows for required maximum of 90 days before the November 1, 2010 EAR adoption deadline)**
- **Transmit draft or adopted EAR for DCA for review (sufficiency review for adopted EAR).**

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- Copies must also be sent to each state and regional review agency, adjacent local governments, and to any citizens that have requested a copy (163.3191(5), F.S.)

**February 2011 – 2012**

- **Update of Comprehensive Plan**
  - **Future Land Use Element**
  - **Transportation Mobility Element**
  - **Recreation Element**
  - **Housing Element**
  - **Urban Design Element**
  - **Conservation, Open Space & Groundwater Recharge Element**
  - **Concurrency Management Element**
  - **Potable Water & Wastewater Element**
  - **Stormwater Management Element**
  - **Solid Waste Element**
  - **Public School Facilities Element**
  - **Capital Improvements Element**
  - **Intergovernmental Coordination Element**
  - **Historic Preservation Element**
  - **Cultural Affairs Element**