



August 2, 2021

Dear City Commissioners,

Zero Waste Gainesville has reviewed the draft Solid Waste Ordinance and are providing the following recommendations and feedback:

- Change the name of the ordinance to reflect the scope and theme of Zero Waste. Some suggestions are: *Zero Waste Ordinance*, *Community Waste Reduction Ordinance*, or *Community Reuse, Recycling, and Composting Ordinance*.
- Within the “Whereas” section, include reference to Gainesville being a Zero Waste City. For example, “Whereas, the City of Gainesville is committed to becoming a Zero Waste City by 2040 and passed a resolution¹ to adopt a Zero Waste definition and set of Zero Waste Principles”
- Create a training and outreach program that provides information to each sector (e.g., commercial, multi-family) regarding their requirements and the timeline to implement the Zero Waste Ordinance.
- Incorporate additional upstream Zero Waste Principles in the ordinance:
 - Require the creation of a reuse program that connects and incentivizes businesses and residents to reduce waste through reuse.
 - Require grocery stores and stores with sellable food to comply with the food waste hierarchy.
 - Create an Adaptive Reuse Program which would facilitate the reuse of existing but underutilized buildings.
 - Include requirements for non-food based businesses (i.e. office and retail) to separate recycling and compostables from their trash.
- In the case of multi-family residential areas, if the recycling, trash and compost containers do not fit into one enclosure or area, provide signage for the location of the additional bins.

Sincerely,

Nina Bhattacharyya, Amanda Waddle, and Rachel Bhattacharyya
The Zero Waste Gainesville team

¹ Resolution No. 170386 - A resolution of the City Commission of the City of Gainesville, Florida, to adopt a definition of Zero Waste, and set of Zero Waste principles to conserve natural resources