

ConnectFree Program Update

John Wachtel/Teresa Osoba
Neighborhood Improvement Department

**GENERAL POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING
AUGUST 23, 2018**

Gainesville.

Citizen centered

People empowered

ConnectFree Program

- Subsidizes water and wastewater extensions and connections to certain projects
 - Existing Residential (owner-occupied or rental)
 - Nonprofits that serve special needs (defined in the Resolution)
 - Subsidies are limited for each project
 - GRU's entire service area is eligible
- Funds are collected through a surcharge on connection charges in the unincorporated area

ConnectFree Program Revenue

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- Revenue Collected (FY16-June 30, 2018): \$903,874

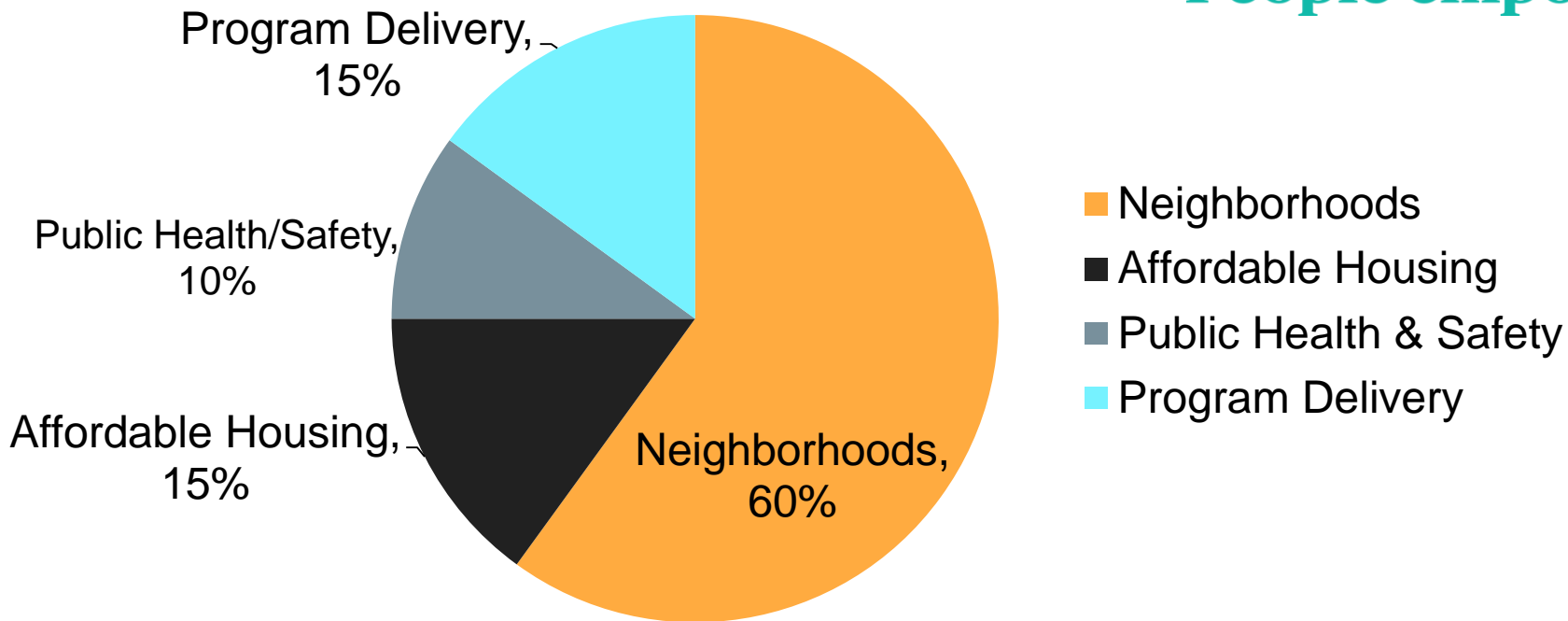
(includes \$46,000 rollover for Arbour Valley)

- Funds Allocated: (FY16): \$302,695

- Funds Remaining to Allocate: \$601,179

Funding Categories

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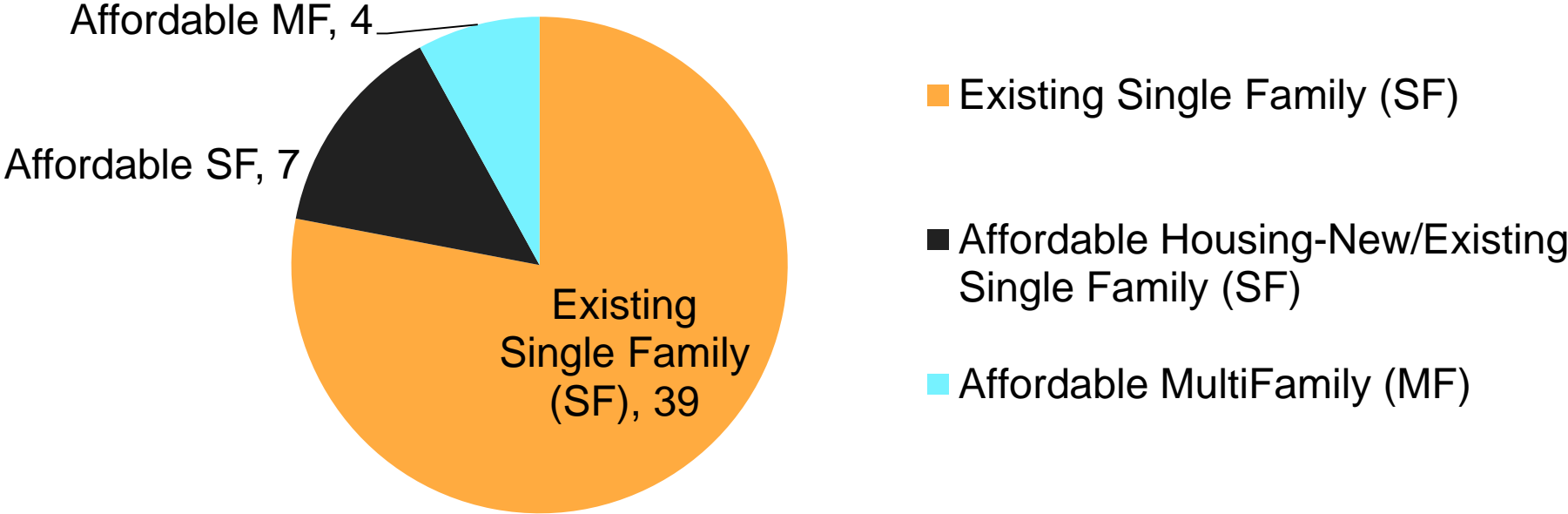


Note: Based on the ConnectFree Resolution

Applications for Connections

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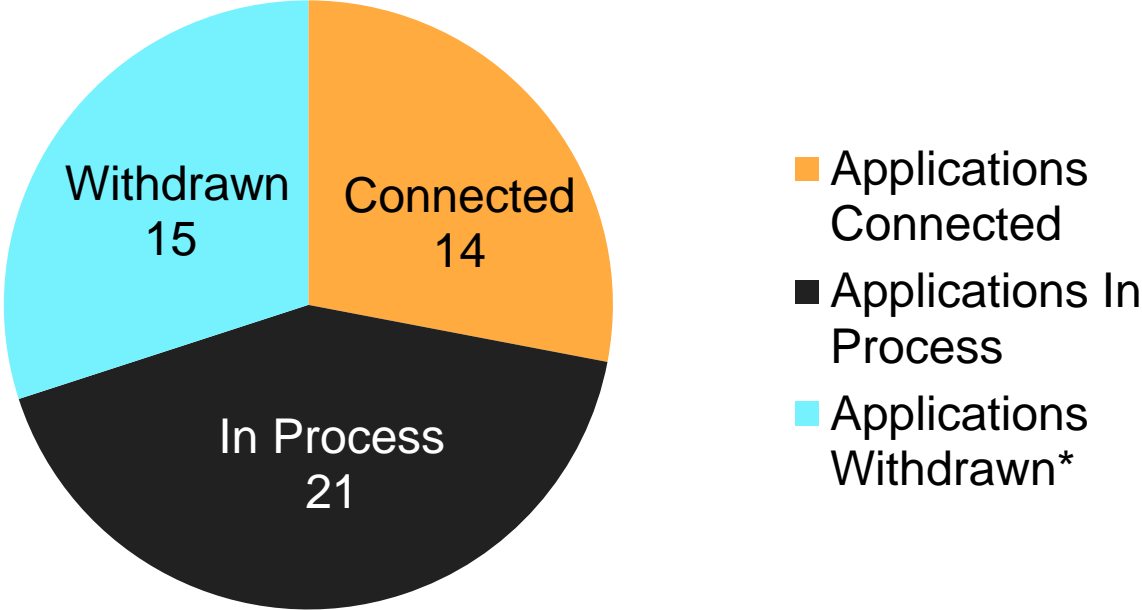
Total Applications Received 50



Note: As of June 30, 2018

Status of Applications

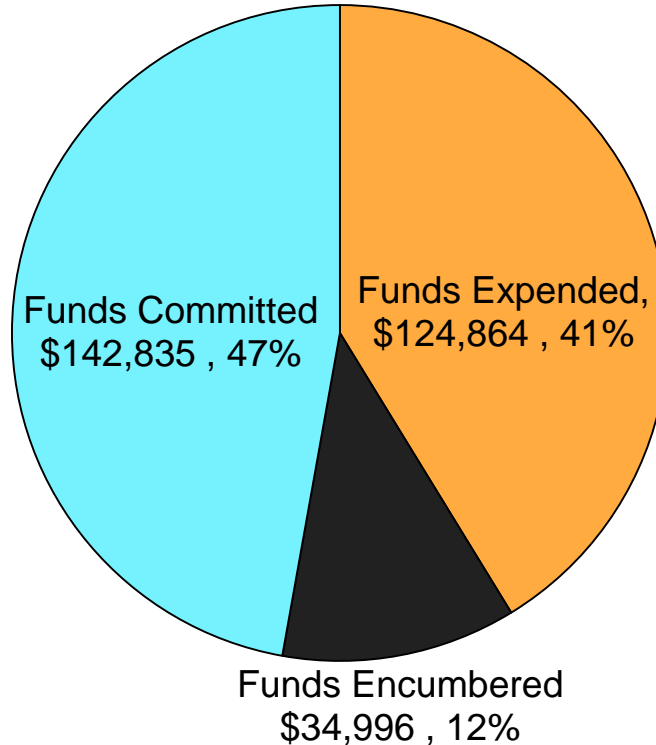
Status of Applications



Note: *Applications withdrawn for various reasons such as, high project costs and project eligibility.

Program Expense Summary

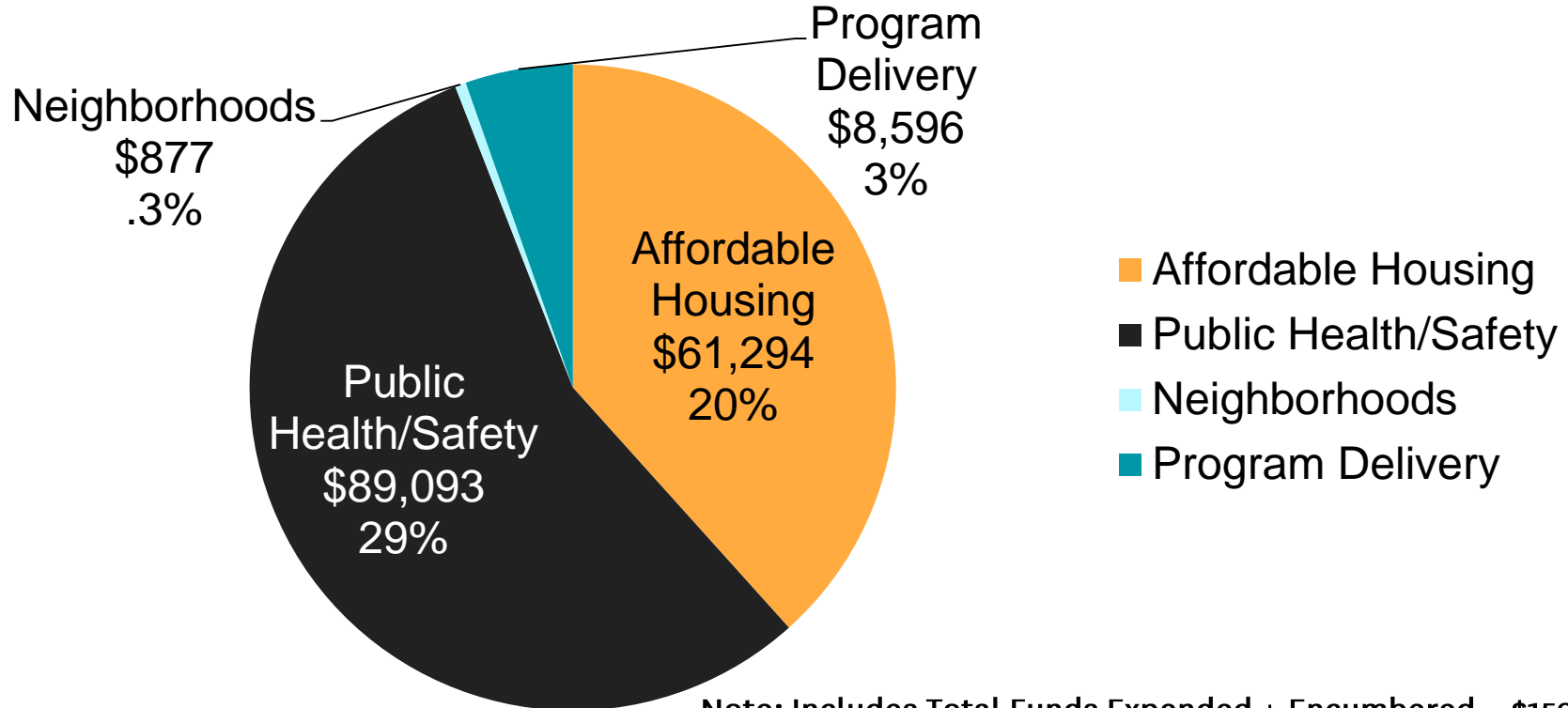
Funds Allocated (FY16) \$302,695



- Funds Expended (Completed Projects)
- Funds Encumbered (Pending Projects)
- Funds Committed (Projects In Process)

Note: ConnectFree Program funding leveraged with approx. 13.3M Federal, State and Private dollars to date

Funding Expense By Category



Note: Includes Total Funds Expended + Encumbered = \$159,860

Project Connections

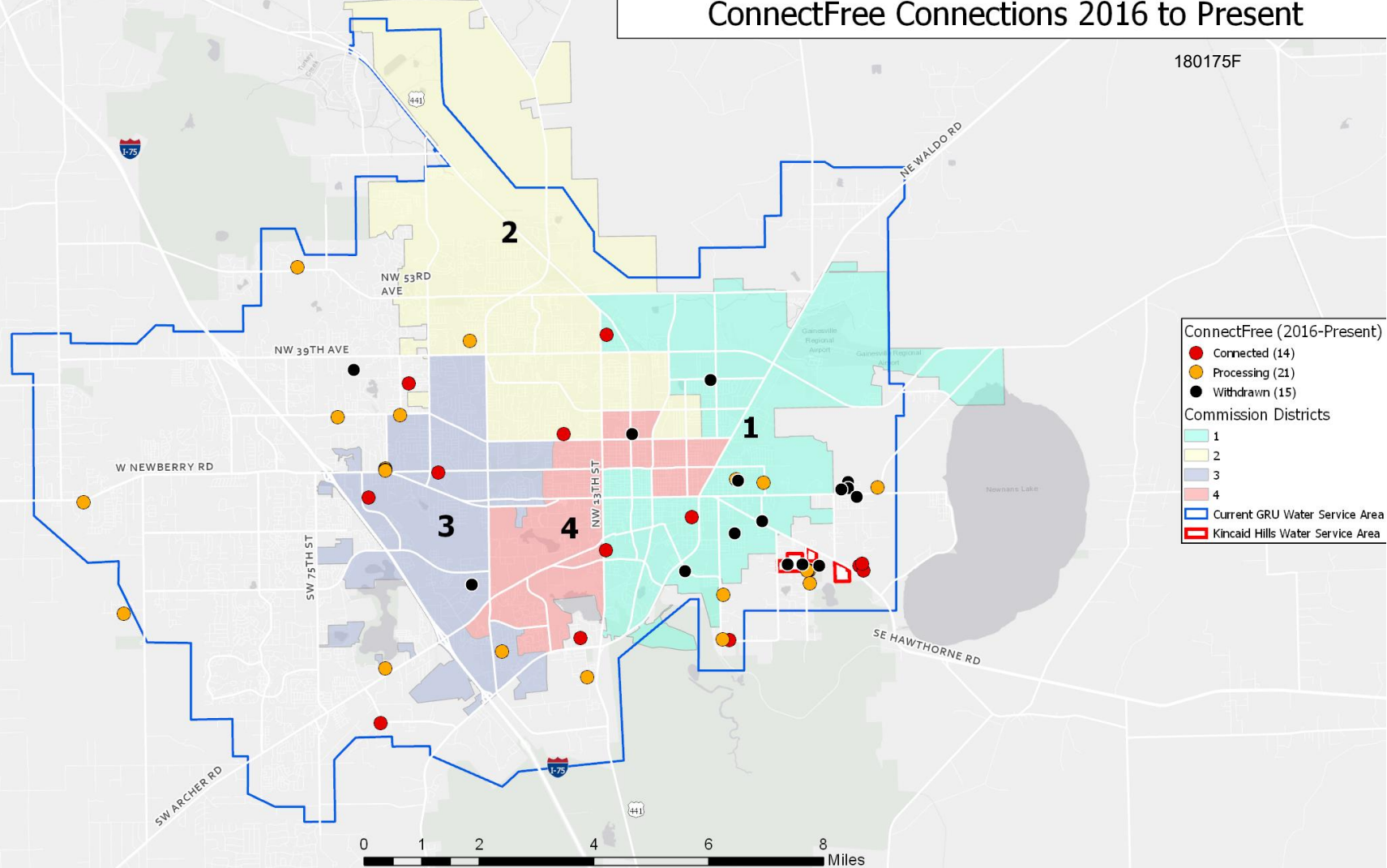
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- **GRU Service Area:**

- **City: 6 Projects/69 Units**
- **County: 8 Projects/8 Units**
- **Total Connected: 14 Projects/77 Units**
(includes 64 units for Arbours at Tumblin' Creek)

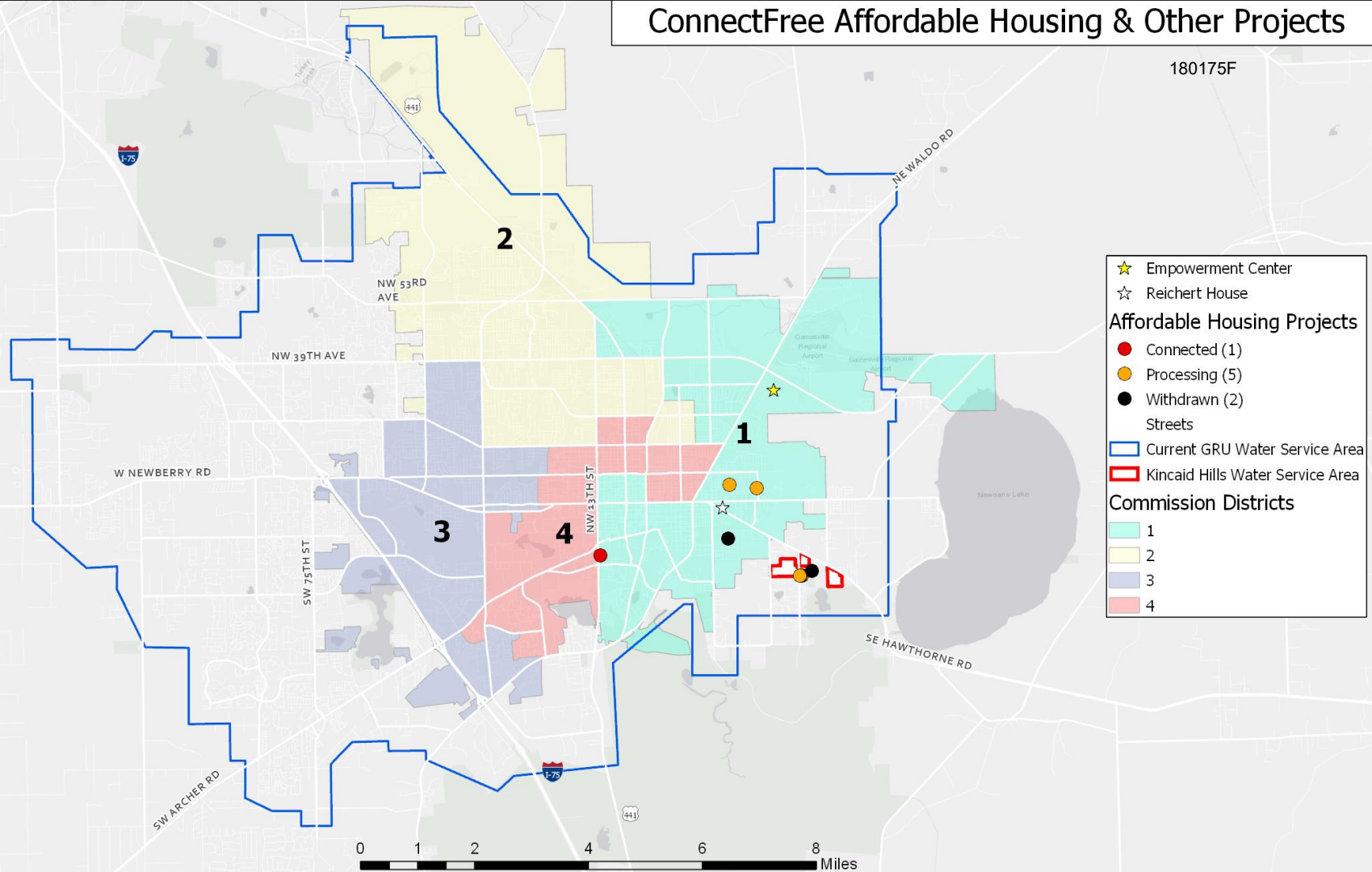
ConnectFree Connections 2016 to Present

180175F



ConnectFree Affordable Housing & Other Projects

180175F



**Public Health, Safety, Environmental
Single Family
Wastewater Connection**



**Public Health, Safety, Environmental
Single Family
Water Connection**

180175F



**Affordable Housing
Single Family
Habitat for Humanity**



Affordable Housing
Multi-Family
Arbour Valley

180175F

1
3
0
3

TOW AWAY
24 HRS
A DAY
ZONE
UNAUTHORIZED VEHICLES
OR VESSELS WILL BE TOWED
AT OWNER'S EXPENSE
FLA. ST. STAT. 318.07
SUPERIOR TOWING
352-373-7374
ROAM TOWING

Arbours

■■■ AT TUMBLIN CREEK ■■■

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Proposed Revisions

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- Additional Flexibility for Program Criteria
- Combine Two Categories
 - 1) Single Units/Neighborhood Extensions and 2) Public Health, Safety, Environmental
 - ❖ Up To 70% of Funds for combined category
 - Retain at Least 15% for Program Delivery
 - Retain at Least 15% for Affordable Housing

Proposed Revisions (continued)

- Clarify that “new affordable residential projects” are eligible
 - Developers can be either non-profit or for-profit
- Priority for Critical Health & Safety Projects
 - Lack of Potable Water
 - Sewage seepage or discharge on to the ground
 - Sewage back up into the house
- Increase Local Government Contribution for Low Income Tax Credit Projects
- If conceptually approved by General Policy Committee, staff will bring back revised Resolution for City Commission approval

Recommendation

- General Policy Committee Hear a Presentation
- Provide Guidance Regarding Revisions to the ConnectFree Program Resolution
- Refer the ConnectFree Program Revisions to the City Commission

Thank You.