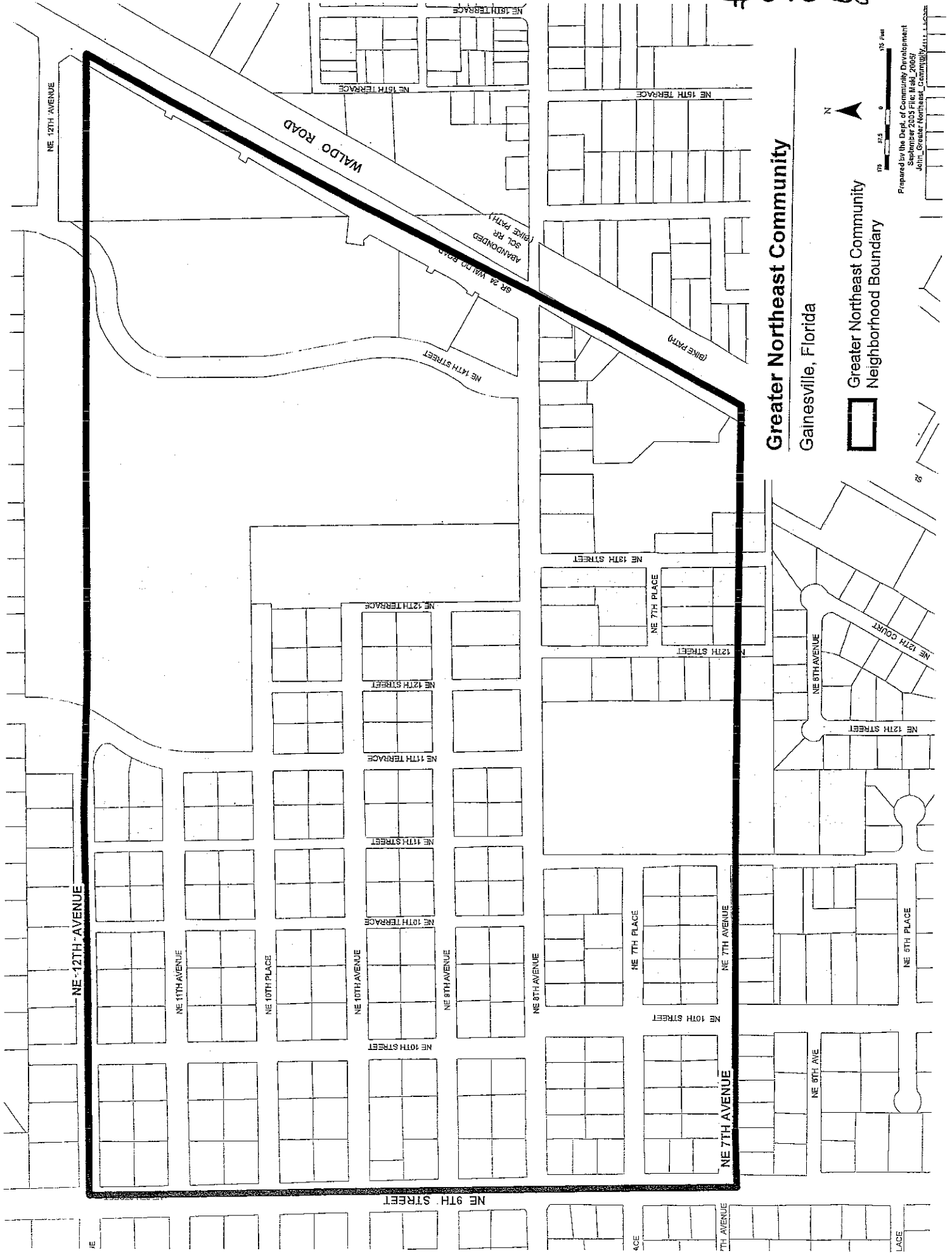


#0+0438



Greater Northeast Community  
Gainesville, Florida

Greater Northeast Community  
Neighborhood Boundary



Prepared by the Dept. of Community Development  
September 2005 File # 043, 2005  
Joint, Greater Northeast Community

## City of Gainesville

### 2007 Neighborhood Planning Program

#### APPLICATION FOR CONSIDERATION

The purpose of the program, as well as the application process and guidelines of the program, are attached. The program involves a series of meetings with city staff to determine neighborhood priorities and goals, develop a neighborhood action plan, and identify and implement neighborhood projects.

Depending on various factors, including funding and staffing levels, up to two neighborhoods per year may be selected to participate. Neighborhoods which are well organized, are older than 25 years, have a high level of citizen interest and initiative, and have issues which can be addressed by the neighborhood planning program are more likely to be selected. The neighborhood(s) selected to participate will be recommended to the City Commission by city staff each year when the program is available. Neighborhoods must be registered with the City of Gainesville in order to be considered.

Please complete this application and answer all questions. **You may attach additional pages, if necessary.** Please return to: Neighborhood Planning Program, c/o John Wachtel, P.O. Box 490, Sta. 11, Gainesville, Florida 32602-0490, **by November 26, 2007.**

#### NEIGHBORHOOD INFORMATION

**The Greater Northeast Community Neighborhood is interested in participating in the 2007 City of Gainesville Neighborhood Planning Program.**

Signature: Naomi Whiteley

Address: 1040 NE 8<sup>th</sup> Avenue Phone #: 256-8894

**How are you authorized to represent the neighborhood?**

I am a member of the Greater Northeast Community neighborhood association.

**QUANTITATIVE SELECTION CRITERIA**  
*(To be completed by neighborhood planning staff)*

Neighborhoods will be assessed based on the:

- Age of the neighborhood
- Historical character of the neighborhood
- Level of need
- Neighborhood organization
- Potential for program implementation
- Previous initiatives
- Major issues and types of projects

**QUALITATIVE SELECTION CRITERIA**  
*(To be completed by neighborhood residents)*

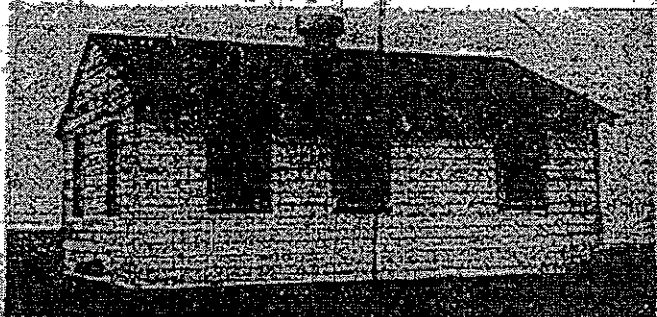
1. What are the greatest strengths of your neighborhood?

The Greater Northeast Community neighborhood is a diverse and lively community that closely reflects the rich culture of the City of Gainesville. Located close to downtown, our neighborhood boasts the ability to walk or ride a bicycle to many local shops, restaurants, and public offices. We are also fortunate to be able to utilize Citizen's Field and Martin Luther King Jr. Center as well as the municipal pool.

We believe the people of the Greater Northeast Community, however, are its greatest strength. We take pride in that we are of many colors, education and income levels. We are slightly more diverse than the City of Gainesville (37% minority versus the average of Gainesville is 32%). Many of us have located here by choice, as we find in this mini-community, the opportunity to decrease our environmental footprints. Many of us consciously live in small houses (that demand less energy to power) in the inner-city (where we are able to drive less). We are aware of, and are ready to face the challenge of embracing homes under both owner occupancy and rental. Our neighborhood association members are dedicated, hardworking individuals with a clear vision for revitalization in our area.

Many young professionals, students, and families have recently purchased homes in our neighborhood and are currently working on renovations. We are very proud to have only a 6.8% vacancy rate (Gainesville average is 11.6). In the last few years, we have seen many improvements made such as new fences, mulch and paved driveways, landscaping, home additions, replacement windows, new roofs installed, etc. and it appears the number of these instances is increasing. Our homeownership rate is now 67% and new owners take pride in their properties.

# YOUR OWN HOME --FOR ONLY \$280!



Yours (with no delay or red tape) this well constructed 18' x 22' popular size building made of best of materials to meet government standards. Perfect for home with floor plan including living room, kitchen, bedroom and bath. Can be moved intact or in sections.

Note these features which make this building a real value-- double hung windows with full length screens. One single door and one double door. Two chimneys for coal or oil stoves. One large roof ventilator. One inch drop ceiling on top stanking. Walls lined on inside with insulating board. All electric wiring still intact. Lock these buildings over and select the particular one you want.

## THIS IS ONE OF THE HUNDREDS OF TYPES AMONG THE 3,000 BUILDINGS FOR SALE

AT CAMP BLANDING, FLA.

Look for Army Camp Working Committee signs and white sales office at E. Hooper Gate, Camp Blanding. Spend a little money, saving activities now going full blast. Hurry--choice while good selection is still available!

### MILLIONS OF FEET OF LUMBER

Building Materials Impossible to Get Elsewhere  
Calling for More Fractions of Prices

- |                              |                               |
|------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 2x4's, 2x6's, 2x8's, etc.    | 2x10's, 2x12's, bottom boards |
| Shave flake, etc. structural | Windows and doors             |
| Assemble on your premises    | Doors and frames              |
| Acoustic board               | Trusses, joists, etc.         |

### HUNDREDS OF OTHER ITEMS

- |                   |                         |
|-------------------|-------------------------|
| Roofing materials | Wall paper, etc.        |
| Insulation        | Paint, etc.             |
| Plumbing          | Electric wire, etc.     |
| Hardware          | Lighting fixtures, etc. |
| Sanitary ware     | Stoves, etc.            |
| Refrigerators     | Freezers, etc.          |

All Selling at Tremendous Savings!

CALL FOR THE CAMP BANDING NEWS PAPER TO GET THE LIST OF ITEMS AND PRICES. A full list will be sent you on request. For information on the building program, contact the Camp Blanding Working Committee, P.O. Box 1000, Camp Blanding, Florida 32009.

We have love and an appreciation for our historic, circa 1940s homes, many which have the unique history of being part of the Camp Blanding pre-manufactured house-sale. We have 29 Camp Blanding homes in the Greater Northeast Community, equally distributed on 8<sup>th</sup> Ave., 7<sup>th</sup> Place, and 7<sup>th</sup> Ave. As you probably know, Camp Blanding homes were built in 1941 to house army troops training for combat in WWII. When Camp Blanding downsized in March of 1946, over 3,000 homes were put up for sale (see newspaper clip at left).

2. What are the major issues and needs facing your neighborhood?

We are facing issues such as crime, substance abuse, some neglected properties, litter and blight. We feel fortunate that most of the crime however is non-violent. All of these issues we share with adjacent neighborhoods, particularly those to our east.

We hope to build strategies to confront these issues as part of our Neighborhood Action Plan. In addition, we look to the Waldo Road Corridor Implementation Study (joint County, City, UF project of the Florida Community Design Center) with great anticipation for the renewed economic development, environmental preservation and social equity benefits it will bring.

3. What types of projects would improve your neighborhood?

There are many types of projects that would improve our neighborhood such as –

- bus stops that have neither a bench nor a garbage can and of even greater importance, there are two specific bus stations we have identified that we would like to be replaced – they are currently blighted and pose safety hazards
- neighborhood cleanups
- signage celebrating the neighborhood – a gateway feature off Waldo
- street cleaning within the neighborhoods
- signage discouraging littering
- the installation of sidewalks on both or one side of the road
- roads resurfacing and lighting (there are many insufficiently lit areas that would greatly benefit both for aesthetics and safety of the neighborhood)
- the NE 9<sup>th</sup> Street / NE 8<sup>th</sup> Avenue roundabout has been identified as one area that needs some additional redesign to increase safety for pedestrians and bicycles trying to cross either road
- medians and redesign of NE 9<sup>th</sup> Street to be more pedestrian friendly and aesthetically beautiful
- community gardens
- landscaping

4. Imagine your neighborhood in 5 years. How would you like it to look? What goals and values are most important to your neighborhood?

The five year vision of our neighborhood is very bright. We see a lovely historic neighborhood with quaint houses on clean, tree-lined streets. We see us moving towards achieving our most important goals – that people that are welcoming and accepting, friendly and interactive. We see a true “front-porch” community.

We would also like to see infill development come in along the arterials including NE 8<sup>th</sup> Avenue, NE 9<sup>th</sup> Street and Waldo Road that would increase the density and increase the number of mixed-use, retail, commercial, office and live/work establishments in our area.

5. Is your neighborhood organized and are neighborhood meetings held (if so, how many meetings in the past year)?

The Greater Northeast Community holds monthly meetings the 2nd Thursday of every month – at 6:00 we hold a Crime Watch meeting with the Gainesville Police Department, and at 6:30 the neighborhood meeting begins. In the past year, we have held 9 neighborhood meetings (we take a 3-month long break in the summer). In addition, we have held 3 special events including a clean-up, a neighborhood meet & greet potluck, and a memorial service for a beloved member of the neighborhood group.

6. Approximately how many residents would be willing to participate in implementing the Neighborhood Planning Program?

We have identified two likely participatory levels for neighbors to take advantage of. We will have a working group of 6-8 that will closely collaborate with the City of Gainesville

Neighborhoods Program to develop our Neighborhood Action Plan. We also have a strong volunteer base to pull from, and we expect 25-40 neighbors to participate in hands-on implementation activities.

7. Why is your neighborhood interested in participating in the City of Gainesville Neighborhood Planning Program and how is your neighborhood a good fit with the Neighborhood Planning Program?

The Greater Northeast Community is interested in *realizing* our goals – we have the vision, energy and commitment required to translate plans into actions. With the planning, fiscal and implementation assistance of the City, we will have the resources needed to implement these projects. Our neighborhood is an excellent fit for the program as we are strong in numbers and stronger in dedication.

We have a proven track record of neighborhood initiatives that date back to the early 1990s when the Greater Northeast Community and Northeast Neighbors were one. We accomplished many neighborhood cleanups, worked with the City to install medians on 8<sup>th</sup> Avenue and held many a potluck to encourage neighbors to become friends that look after one another

We feel we are on the brink of having “arrived” as a revitalized, renovated neighborhood. There is still much to be done to ensure our success and we must work hard to be sure that we do not slip and allow crime, blight and neglect to discourage us.

We own or rent homes with a unique historic value. We have a very high level of need for improvement of the infrastructure in our neighborhood. We are organized and ready to take on the Neighborhood Action Plan item and excited about the possibility of implementation. We have a number of type of projects to choose from and a proven successful track record of neighborhood projects in our history.

8. Describe your neighborhood in your own words. Include a brief account of the physical, social, and public safety conditions of the neighborhood. Highlight any special resources, knowledge, or experience the neighborhood will bring to the planning process.

As spoken by one of our most active neighborhood leaders...

“Our neighborhood is a diverse community of mostly modest single family homes. All of us in this neighborhood feel a very strong connection to our homes, neighbors and the community. Personally, we feel a very strong link to the history of our home as it was our grandfather's home and the home our father grew up in. While the neighborhood has seen many changes since the late 1940's, the sense of community still exists now as it did then - and we want to keep it that way. Many of us have renovated or are in the process of renovating our homes with the intent to remain here for many years. We love that we can easily walk to downtown Gainesville and enjoy the restaurants and cultural offerings. We love that we've built relationships with our neighbors and that at the core of those relationships is the fact that we all care about our neighborhood and its future.

While mostly residential, our neighborhood does have a few small businesses. In terms of crime, our neighborhood is generally considered a low crime area - and we know that part of the reason for that is precisely because we are active in our Crime Watch and we communicate with GPD on a regular basis.

What our neighborhood brings to the planning process is a vested interest. We intend to be living here for years to come, and we want to have input into those decisions that impact us. Our neighborhood has so much positive potential - we want to be an integral part of helping it reach it."

- Miriam Cintron

As spoken by another neighborhood leader...

We moved to Gainesville in 2006 and were looking for a neighborhood that had a strong sense of place - historical significance, cultural diversity, friendly neighbors with a sense of stewardship, and BIG trees...the integration of 'Old' Florida & modern Florida. The Greater Northeast Community fulfilled our desires with the added benefit of being a stone's throw away from downtown & the university. We feel privileged to live here & look forward to enhancing the neighborhood for future generations.

- Bret Pasch

***On behalf of the entire Greater Northeast Community - Thank you for your consideration of our neighborhood!***

Additional sheet(s) may be attached

Please Attach any relevant documentation including:

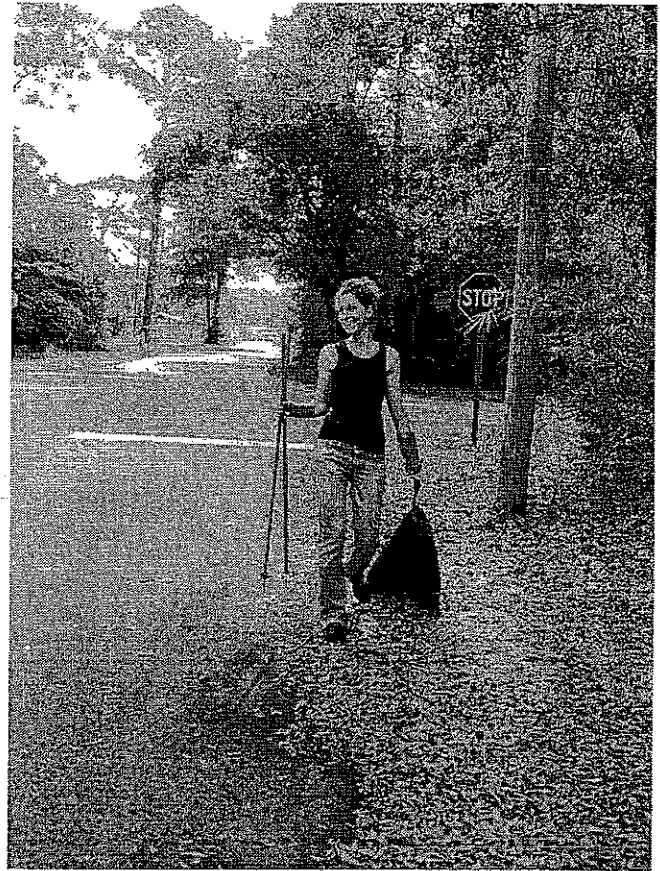
1. News clippings or other documentation highlighting previous neighborhood initiatives
2. Documentation from neighborhood meetings including attendance sheets, newsletters, minutes, by-laws, etc.
3. Any other additional answer sheets

If your neighborhood is not selected, you will be given the opportunity to resubmit your application for the following year's program, if available. In the past, several neighborhoods applied more than once before being selected. If you have any questions, please contact John Wachtel by telephone at 334-5022, or by e-mail at [wachteljs@cityofgainesville.org](mailto:wachteljs@cityofgainesville.org).

**\*\*Applications must be received by November 26, 2007 for consideration\*\***



**Pictures of Greater Northeast  
Community neighbors  
during a 2006 cleanup**



## Greater Northeast Community Neighborhood Planning Program: Quantitative Selection Criteria

The following criteria are used for the Quantitative Component of the selection recommendation process. A maximum score of 100 points is possible.

- Age of Neighborhood

Neighborhoods older than 25 years are awarded one point for every 15 years they exceed the 25-year age minimum. Neighborhood age is determined by the average age of the platted lots within the neighborhood boundaries.

|      |   |
|------|---|
| 0 pt | Neighborhood is less than 25 years old  |
| 1 pt | Neighborhood is between 25-40 years old |
| 2 pt | Neighborhood is between 41-55 years old |
| 3 pt | Neighborhood is between 56-70 years old |
| 4 pt | Neighborhood is between 71-85 years old |
| 5 pt | Neighborhood is between 85+ years old   |

**Points Earned: 5**

- Historical Character of Neighborhood

Neighborhoods with 50% of acreage and/or 50% of number of parcels located within a locally designated historic district are awarded five points.

|      |  |
|------|--|
| 5 pt | 50% of neighborhood acreage and/or number of parcels are located within a locally designated historic district |
|------|--|

**Points Earned: 0**

- Level of Need

Neighborhoods with greater need for physical improvements are considered more favorably for inclusion into the NPP. Several variables are used to assess neighborhood need. These variables include the economic status of the neighborhood residents, whether the neighborhood is located within a CRA and/or CDBG/HOME Program Target Area, the percentage of owner-occupancy, and the overall condition of relevant neighborhood infrastructure.

Neighborhoods with 50% of acreage and/or 50% of number of parcels located within a designated CRA district are awarded two points. Neighborhoods with 50% of acreage and/or 50% of number of parcels located within a CDBG/HOME Program Target Area are awarded two points.

|      |   |
|------|---|
| 2 pt | Neighborhood located within a designated CRA district       |
| 2 pt | Neighborhood located within a CDBG/HOME Program Target Area |

**Points Earned: 2**

Neighborhoods where 50-70% of residences are owner-occupied (based on Alachua County Property Appraiser data) are awarded 5 points, 30-49% 3 points, and less than 29% or more than 71% 1 point.

|      |   |
|------|---|
| 5 pt | 50-70% owner-occupied                         |
| 3 pt | 30-49% owner-occupied                         |
| 1 pt | Less than 29% or more than 71% owner-occupied |

**Points Earned: 1**

Neighborhoods where the median family income is above the mean for the City of Gainesville are not awarded points. Neighborhoods where the median family income is 90-100% of the mean for the City of Gainesville are awarded one point, 80-89% are awarded 2 points, 70-79% are awarded 3 points, 60-69% are awarded 4 points, and 59% and below are awarded 5 points.

|      |   |
|------|---|
| 0 pt | Above the median family income for the City of Gainesville        |
| 1 pt | 90-100% of the median family income for the City of Gainesville   |
| 2 pt | 80-89% of the median family income for the City of Gainesville    |
| 3 pt | 70-79% of the median family income for the City of Gainesville    |
| 4 pt | 60-69% of the median family income for the City of Gainesville    |
| 5 pt | Below 59% of the median family income for the City of Gainesville |

**Points Earned: 5**

Neighborhoods that have not had any Public Works projects implemented or completed in the past 5 years, nor have any projects planned in the coming year are awarded three points. Projects must be within the neighborhood boundaries and do not include regular maintenance and repairs of existing infrastructure. Neighborhoods that have not had any Parks, Recreation, and Cultural Affairs Department projects implemented or completed in the past 5 years, nor have any projects planned in the coming year are awarded three points. Projects must be within the neighborhood boundaries and do not include regular maintenance of plantings or park equipment. Information regarding past and future projects is drawn from the most recent 5 Year Capital Improvement Plan and the most recent Financial and Operating Plan Report.

|      |   |
|------|---|
| 3 pt | No Public Works' projects in the past 5 years or planned for the current year |
| 3 pt | No Parks' projects in the past 5 years or planned for the current year        |

**Points Earned: 6**

Planning Staff assess existing neighborhood infrastructure for age and condition.

|      |  |
|------|--|
| 5 pt | Deteriorating infrastructure, lack of sidewalks, lighting, curbs, drainage, etc. |
|------|--|

**Points Earned: 0**

- Neighborhood Organization

Neighborhoods interested in participation must show significant resident organization. A minimum of 3 documented neighborhood meetings per year must take place. Neighborhood meetings can be documented with a variety of means including, minutes keeping, attendance sheets, or videotaping and audio recording. Two additional points are awarded for every 3 meetings exceeding the minimum.

|      |   |
|------|---|
| 1 pt | 3 documented neighborhood meetings per year |
| 3 pt | 6 documented neighborhood meetings per year |
| 5 pt | 9 documented neighborhood meetings per year |

**Points Earned: 5**

Attendance records at these neighborhood meetings are used to determine the number of citizens interested in participating in the NPP. Neighborhoods with at least 10 residents in attendance at each of the neighborhood meetings are awarded five points.

|      |  |
|------|--|
| 5 pt | 10 people attend each of the neighborhood meetings |
|------|--|

**Points Earned: 0**

Two points are awarded if there is a regular neighborhood newsletter distributed at least twice a year. Newsletters can be printed or be distributed electronically. Two points are awarded if the neighborhood organization has adopted a set of by-laws. Neighborhoods are awarded two points if their Neighborhood Resource Officer addresses one of their meetings, at least twice a year. Neighborhoods are awarded two points if they have established a bank account or treasurer and collect money at least once a year for neighborhood projects. Neighborhoods who invite the Neighborhood Planning staff to give a presentation about the NPP and then submit an NPP application within 6 months of the initial presentation are awarded two points.

|      |  |
|------|--|
| 2 pt | Neighborhood distributes a newsletter twice a year   |
| 2 pt | Neighborhood organization has adopted a set of by-laws   |
| 2 pt | Neighborhood has a Community Resource Officer speak twice a year   |
| 2 pt | Neighborhood has a treasurer or bank account to collect money for neighborhood projects  |
| 2 pt | Neighborhood has invited planning staff to give presentation and has submitted an NPP application within 6 months of the presentation date |

**Points Earned: 2**

- Potential for implementation (*neighborhoods that have pre-existing conditions favorable to proposed projects are considered more favorably in the NPP*)

Neighborhoods that have 50% or more curbed streets are awarded three points. Neighborhoods with right-of-ways large enough to install sidewalks, plantings, entrance signs, bus shelters, etc. are awarded three points. Right-of-ways will also be assessed for vertical clearance of power lines and other obstructions. Neighborhoods are awarded three points for each park located within the neighborhood boundaries. Neighborhoods with 10% or more publicly owned land are awarded three points.

|      |  |
|------|--|
| 3 pt | 50% of streets in neighborhood are curbed  |
| 3 pt | 50% of streets have storm drains   |
| 3 pt | Right-of-ways have enough horizontal and vertical clearance for improvements                         |
| 5 pt | Number of parks located within the neighborhood boundaries (maximum 5 pts)                           |
| 3 pt | Neighborhood has 10% or more publicly owned land   |
| 3 pt | Neighborhood has pedestrian oriented or traffic calming features (street medians, roundabouts, etc.) |

**Points Earned: 7**

- Major issues and types of projects (*neighborhoods which specify issues and potential projects which could be effectively addressed and implemented through the program are considered more favorably for inclusion in the NPP*).

Interested neighborhoods should have identified several potential projects within the scope of the program. Each feasible project is awarded five points. Planning staff, in consultation with other relevant departments, determines project feasibility.

|       |   |
|-------|---|
| 5 pts | Per feasible neighborhood project (maximum 15 points) |
|-------|---|

**Points Earned: 15**

- Previous Initiatives (*neighborhoods which have successfully implemented previous initiatives are considered more favorably for inclusion in the NPP*)

Neighborhoods that have previously participated in community initiatives are awarded two points for each documented project undertaken by the neighborhood. Documentation can include receipts for expenditures, photos of work and completed projects, and any other relevant materials. Examples of past projects include neighborhood clean-ups, plantings and other beautification efforts, established crime watches, etc.

|       |  |
|-------|--|
| 2 pts | Per previous neighborhood initiative (maximum 10 points) |
|-------|--|

**Points Earned: 6**

**Total Points Earned: 54 out of 100 possible**



## Introduction

- Overview of Neighborhood Planning Program (NPP)
- Status Report and Recent Projects
- Recommend New Neighborhood

## Overview

- Partnership between the City and its neighborhoods
- Voluntary and Neighborhood Driven
- Neighborhood identifies:
  - Assets and liabilities
  - Challenges and opportunities
- Neighborhood develops:
  - Solutions
  - Future vision

## Goals

- Increase collaboration between the City and its neighborhoods
- Create positive, visible change
- Build momentum and neighborhood pride

## Overview

- 16 participating neighborhoods since 1998

## Planning

- Neighborhood Action Plan
  - Long & Short Term Goals & Strategies
  - Identification & Prioritization of Capital Projects
- Coordination w/other City Depts.

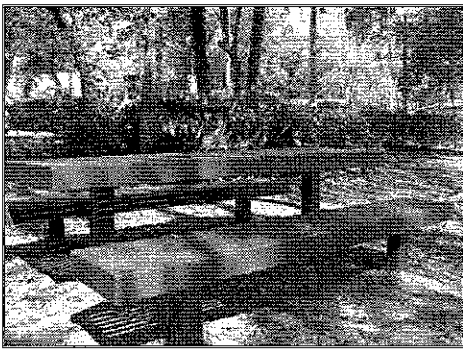
## Implementation Funds

- \$15,000 per neighborhood
- Limited to capital improvements on public or common property
- Build momentum

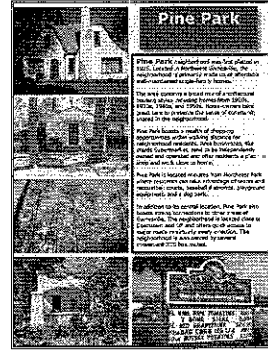
## Status Report

- Recent Projects
- Neighborhood Web Pages
- Neighborhood Action Plans

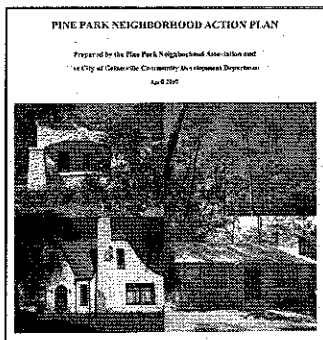
## Recent Projects



## Neighborhood Web Pages



## Neighborhood Action Plans



## Designation Process

Neighborhood submits application



Staff review & recommendation



Designation by the City Commission

## Recommendation Criteria

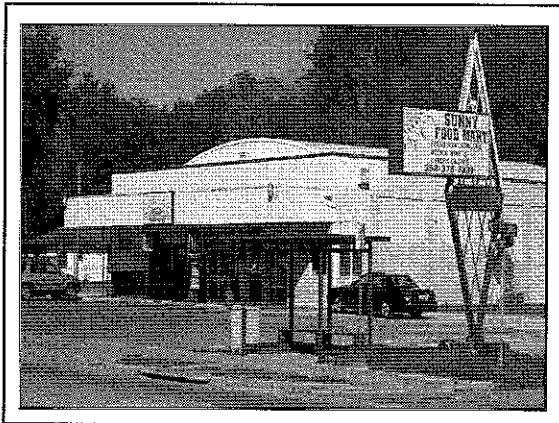
- Quantitative
  - Neighborhood data collected from numerous sources
- Qualitative
  - Selection Committee
    - GPD, Codes Enforcement, Housing, Neighborhood Planning

## Applications

Mailed: September 25<sup>th</sup>, 2007

Due: November 26<sup>th</sup>, 2007

- 1 Neighborhood Applied
  - Greater Northeast Community
- Staff is coordinating with other neighborhoods to determine why the response rate was lower than expected



## Recommendation

- Add the Greater Northeast Community to the NPP



**To:** John Wachtel, Neighborhood Planning Coordinator  
**From:** Andrew Persons, Neighborhood Planning Intern  
**Date:** February 1, 2008  
**Subject:** Neighborhood Planning Program Update

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## Introduction

The mission of the Neighborhood Planning Program is to enhance the quality of life for neighborhood residents by encouraging active citizen participation in identifying, prioritizing, and addressing opportunities for positive change within neighborhoods and to familiarize citizens with the relevant processes and personnel of City Government.

The Neighborhood Planning Program (NPP) is a collaborative process between the City and the people who live and work in its neighborhoods. The program is coordinated by the Neighborhood Planning Coordinator and includes the participation of city staff from various departments to assist designated neighborhoods to meet goals, address needs, and implement projects. To be eligible for the program, neighborhood organizations (usually formal associations or crime watch groups) must apply for designation and be registered with the City. The City Commission ultimately decides which neighborhoods participate in the program.

The NPP is intended to build stronger community relationships, improve communication between the neighborhood and the City, define neighborhood goals and issues, and explore alternatives for achieving desired neighborhood and City priorities. The NPP provides a forum for residents to initiate, rather than react to change, and in which neighborhood residents can develop mutually acceptable alternatives and solutions to area problems and define future goals. Further, the neighborhood planning process addresses issues and opportunities at a scale that is more refined and responsive to neighborhood needs.

Since 1998, the City Commission has designated sixteen neighborhoods for participation in the Program. The City Commission allocated \$15,000 for each neighborhood to implement the program and for physical improvement projects located in the city right-of-way, on city owned property, or on common property maintained by the neighborhood. The funding for small projects has been made a part of the program based on the belief that people working together to provide tangible improvements in a neighborhood helps to instill a sense of neighborhood pride, thereby building stronger communities. The projects chosen by the neighborhood should help to create a common identity or sense of community in the neighborhood.

The end product of the NPP, in addition to the physical improvement of the neighborhood, is a Neighborhood Action Plan, which identifies neighborhood issues and projects, guides future enhancements of the neighborhood, and directs and manages change.

Resident participation is the cornerstone of the Neighborhood Planning Program, and the Neighborhood Action Plan is completely neighborhood driven. The plan is divided into issue areas and contains the goals and strategies as recommended by the neighborhood through a series of neighborhood meetings

The main purpose of this plan is to provide the neighborhood with a working document to continue to work on long and short-term goals beyond the city sponsored neighborhood planning process, thereby further enhancing the quality of Gainesville's neighborhoods and neighborhood organization network.

### **General Projects**

Neighborhood Planning Staff have recently completed two projects that positively impact the entire Program. The first of those projects was to significantly update, formalize and document NPP Procedures. That included explanation packets, application forms, selection recommendation procedures, and a general yearly schedule.

Staff also updated the NPP web site to include current pictures and information for each of the 16 neighborhoods in the program. Currently, Computer Information Services Department Staff and Neighborhood Planning Staff are coordinating to make the site more useful and easy to use. Those Staff hope to add information regarding a variety of subjects including starting a neighborhood organization, running a meeting, community gardens, and managing an organization's budget.

### **Neighborhood Updates**

**Duval** - Although there are no NPP funds left for this neighborhood, and the NPP is no longer active in this neighborhood, the neighborhood association continues to meet, to coordinate with city departments, and to advocate for the neighborhood.

Projects completed include the following:

- Installed entranceway sign and landscaping;
- Installed landscaping along streets; and
- Installed two bus shelters.

**Grove Street** – Like Duval, Grove Street has no NPP funds left, but continues to meet, to coordinate with city departments, and to advocate for the neighborhood.

Projects completed include the following:

- Installed historic style street signs throughout the neighborhood;
- Installed improvements in the Neighborhood's Dreamers' Garden; and
- Installed landscaping in several medians.

**Sugar Hill** - Like Duval and Grove Street, Sugar Hill, has no NPP funds left, but continues to meet, to coordinate with city departments, and to advocate for the neighborhood.

Projects completed include the following:

- Installed a picnic shelter in Barbara Higgins Park;
- Installed new picnic tables, grills and benches in Barbara Higgins Park;
- Installed a fence along the back of Barbara Higgins Park; and
- Installed a new bus shelter.

**Lincoln Estates** - Like Duval, Grove Street, and Sugar Hill, Lincoln Estates has no NPP funds left, but continues to meet, to coordinate with city departments, and to advocate for the neighborhood.

Projects completed include the following:

- Installed crosswalks and sidewalks with curbs leading toward the Boys Club;
- Installed landscaping in a prominent median; and
- Installed a sign and landscaping at a major entranceway.

**Hibiscus Park** - Like Duval, Grove Street, Sugar Hill and Lincoln Estates, Hibiscus Park has no NPP funds left, but continues to meet, to coordinate with city departments, and to advocate for the neighborhood.

Projects completed include the following:

- Installed historic style street signs;
- Installed three entranceway signs;
- Installed landscaping for one entrance;
- Used creative design and landscaping to convert a sink hole into a passive park with benches, picnic tables and trash receptacles; and

- Coordinated with the Public Works Department to pave neighborhood streets

**Highland Court Manor** - This neighborhood has approximately \$3,540 left. Future projects may include additional landscaping and a gardener's shed for a Community Garden.

Projects completed include the following:

- Installed entranceway signs and landscaping installed at six prominent entrances; and
- Installed 16 Sweet Bay Magnolia trees, 8 Holly trees, and 4 Drake Elm trees along Northeast 9<sup>th</sup> Street.

**Porters Community** - The Neighborhood currently has \$8,747 remaining. Potential future projects include a neighborhood community garden, trimming hazardous trees, and landscaping.

Projects completed include the following:

- Installed a drinking fountain, new fence, and new trash receptacle in a neighborhood tot lot;
- Installed two neighborhood entranceway signs;
- Re-established the Porters Oaks Homeowners Association; and
- Installed "No Trespass" signs for Porters Oaks Homeowners Association.

**North Lincoln Heights** - This neighborhood has \$7,200 left. Future projects identified by the neighborhood include entrance signs and additional landscaping.

Projects completed include the following:

- Installed 41 East Palatka Holly and Crape Myrtle trees in front of Williams Elementary School, along Southeast 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue;
- Installed 18 flowering trees along Southeast 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue; and
- Constructed a monument celebrating residents' efforts to improve and beautify their neighborhood.

**Oakview** - Like Duval, Grove Street, Sugar Hill, Lincoln Estates, and Hibiscus Park, Oakview has no NPP funds left, but continues to meet, to coordinate with city departments, and to advocate for the neighborhood.

Projects completed include the following:

- Installed neighborhood signs and landscaping at prominent entranceways; and
- Installed curbing and extensive landscaping in a median.

**Ridgeview** – Ridgeview currently has \$4,732.70 left. Future projects may include additional landscaping.

Projects completed include the following:

- Installed 90 bollards to control parking around a neighborhood park;
- Installed a bus shelter at a heavily used bus stop; and
- Installed neighborhood signs at prominent entrances.

**Springhill** – An initial draft of The Springhill Neighborhood Action Plan has been completed, but not finalized or approved. The draft envisions major improvements to Springhill Park, including coordinating with the Eastside Community Redevelopment Agency and the General Services Department to purchase and install a picnic pavilion, picnic tables and benches, a drinking fountain, and barbeque grills.

**Stephen Foster** – An initial draft of The Stephen Foster Neighborhood Action Plan has been completed, but not finalized or approved. Potential projects include entrance signs and landscaping.

**Ironwood** – Like Duval, Grove Street, Sugar Hill, Lincoln Estates, Hibiscus Park, and Oakview, Ironwood has no NPP funds left, but continues to meet, to coordinate with city departments, and to advocate for the neighborhood.

Projects completed include the following:

- Installed 20 Crape Myrtle and 10 Drake Elm Trees along the west side of Northeast 15<sup>th</sup> Street, between the bus stop shelter and Northeast 39<sup>th</sup> Avenue; and
- Installed decorative fencing along the east side of Northeast 15<sup>th</sup> Street, near Ironwood Village.

**Pine Park** – The Pine Park Neighborhood Action Plan is complete. Potential projects include curbing and landscaping the three medians in 21<sup>st</sup> Avenue and entrance signs.

**Northeast Neighbors** – Portions of The Northeast Neighbors Neighborhood Action Plan have been drafted. Additional input from residents is needed.

**Apple Tree** – The Apple Tree Neighborhood Action Plan is complete. Although the Apple Tree Neighborhood has no NPP funds left, they continue to meet, to coordinate with city departments, and to advocate for the neighborhood.

Projects completed include the following:

- Designed and installed two new entrance signs;
- Installed new irrigation and landscaping at the entrance to the neighborhood. The landscaping included six Magnolia Trees, Variegated Liriope, Azaleas, Parson's Juniper, Needle Palms, Agapanthus, and Viburnum.

**Summary** – The Duval, Grove Street, Sugarhill, Lincoln Estates, Hibiscus Park, Oakview, Ironwood, and Apple Tree neighborhoods have graduated from the Neighborhood Planning Program. With the exception of Stephen Foster and Northeast Neighbors, the remaining neighborhoods are in the process of implementing their Neighborhood Action Plans. Stephen Foster hopes to begin implementation soon, while Northeast Neighbors needs to finalize the plan.

### **Future Directions for the Neighborhood Planning Program**

The NPP is uniquely positioned to address needs, meet goals, and initiate projects on a neighborhood level. The NPP will continue to implement capital projects and collaborate with other City departments to achieve desired neighborhood and City priorities. In response to residents' requests, the City should consider expanding the focus of the NPP to explore more service and training opportunities for neighborhood residents, including partnering with other City and County departments, non-profit agencies, and the University to promote career building, small business training, community organizing, health and nutritional programs, and neighborhood safety.