

Intent:

It is the intent of the City Commission to create, empower, staff and fund a Utility Advisory Board to advise and make recommendations regarding all aspects of the governance of the City's electric, gas, telecommunications, water and wastewater utilities with respect to:

- the Utility Advisory Board's annual goals and work plan, which shall be prepared yearly and for consideration and adoption approved by the city commission;
- the City's "Energy and Utility Policy" and the basic premises of equity, environment and economy;
- projects with Utility impact brought before City Commission and to other departments and advisory boards as deemed appropriate by the City Commission;
- decisions of the Utility affecting safety, the environment, reliability, finance and customer service;
- budgets, which will be reviewed and tracked throughout the year quarterly with special attention given to capital and operations/maintenance projects with budgets over \$1M;
- and other priorities as determined by the City Commission.

In addition, for expenditures with a value determined by the City Commission, the Utility Advisory Board may approve those expenditures independent of the City Commission, if they so desire. The Utility Advisory Board will provide brief written and/or verbal reports at monthly intervals, with a biannual reports provided at joint City Commission and Utility Advisory Board meetings.

Energy & Utility Policy Overview Statement

Gainesville's *Unified Utility Policy* is the City's blueprint for how best to use its utility infrastructure to serve the community. It establishes priorities for Gainesville Regional Utilities and GRUCom, plans for the long term needs of the utility and the City, and better integrates the utility into the larger spectrum of services offered by the City of Gainesville. The *Unified Utility Policy* focuses on delivering safe, environmentally responsible, reliable, and affordable utility service; modernizing and maintaining GRU's infrastructure to expand the range and quality of services; and defining GRU's role in supporting City initiatives on affordable housing, economic development, renewable energy, ~~and~~ environmental stewardship and transportation.

The *Unified Utility Policy* views GRU holistically, as both a part of City government and an organization with its own unique challenges and strengths. It takes a systems approach to understanding the relationship between the utility, the City, and the citizens and emphasizes a triple bottom line approach (economy, society, and environment equity, environment and economy) to guide the decisions of utility stakeholders.