# LEGISLATIVE # 110540B

Gina M. Hill

**Executive Vice President** 

# Memorandum

DATE:

November 7, 2011

TO:

Erik Bredfeldt, TITLE - Please check spelling & title

FROM:

Matt Webster, BANCF Government Affairs Committee

SUBJECT:

City of Gainesville Form Based Code Scope of Work Comments

The BANCF Government Affairs Committee members would like to thank you for the opportunity to meet with you and your staff to discuss the proposed scope of work for the consultant hired to update the Land Development Code. We have several suggestions regarding the information presented including comments on the map, designating form based code areas and overlays. If you have any questions on our comments, please contact me to discuss.

### Form Based Code Areas

Several members of the BANCF Government Affairs Committee met to discuss the proposed form based codes and map provided by City Staff on October 24. We determined through our discussions that the framework of the form based codes should include several designations or areas. These areas would be characterized by their current use, location within the City and vision for the future. We have identified six types of areas, general characteristics and generally mapped them for your review.

### 1. Walkable Core

- Location: College Park, University Heights
- Character: These areas should be walkable, dense, small blocks, and mixed-use. The regulations would include provisions for small block perimeters, a mix of housing types, multi-modal transportation

# 2. Retail/Service Core

- Locations: Millhopper area (NW 16<sup>th</sup> Avenue/NW 43<sup>rd</sup> Street), Old Gainesville Mall (NW 13<sup>th</sup> Street/NW 23<sup>rd</sup> Avenue), Butler Plaza Area (Archer Road), SW 13<sup>th</sup> Street and Williston Road
- Character: These areas should include regulations to promote redevelopment, but ensure that
  redevelopment is not too onerous. A mix of uses should be encouraged, but not required and the
  maximum block perimeter should match a more suburban type of development with the
  encouragement of buildings fronting public streets.

## 3. Neighborhood Core

- Locations: Five Points and Duval, Westgate and Plaza Royale (Newberry Road from 8<sup>th</sup> Avenue to 34<sup>th</sup> Street), North Main Street and Northwest 6<sup>th</sup> Street between NW 8<sup>th</sup> Avenue and NW 23<sup>rd</sup> Avenue
- Character: These areas should promote redevelopment of neighborhood services within a compact, walkable area with pedestrian and multi-modal access to adjacent residential areas. Smaller maximum block perimeters and a mix of uses should be promoted. Regulations for these areas must include a mix of housing types including traditional single family uses, rowhouses, multi-family, and second story residential over neighborhood commercial uses.

# 4. Industrial/Business Core

- North Main Street Commercial Areas, Northeast Industrial Areas
- Character: The industrial/business area regulations should promote redevelopment while minimizing prescriptive regulations usually associated with urban type form based codes.

# 5. Incubator Catalyst Core

Downtown, Power District, Industrial Areas along South Main Street

- Character: The incubator Catalyst Core area should be similar in nature to the UMU2 regulations.
   This area has minimal residential areas which could be expanded and has the potential to redevelop as an employment center.
- 6. Gateway Redevelopment
  - Linear corridors along North and South 13<sup>th</sup> Street and University Avenue
  - Character: The Gateway Redevelopment areas along 13<sup>th</sup> Street should replace the Central Corridors and allow for urban connections between the more urbanized areas such as neighborhood core, walkable core and retail/service core. These corridors should promote a mix of uses which are oriented towards the street with minimal visible off-street parking areas.

### **Overlays**

The City of Gainesville currently has multiple overlay zones or special area plans including 39th Avenue, Corporate Park, Traditional City, College Park, University Heights, 13th Street, Southeast Gainesville Renaissance Initiative Area (SEGRI), Special Environmental Concern, Idylwild-Serenola Special Study, Significant Ecological Communities, Central Corridors, and Residential Parking Overlay District. The majority of these overlay zones should be removed with the creation of Form Based Code Areas specifically Corporate Park, 39<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Traditional City, College Park, University Heights, 13<sup>th</sup> Street, SEGRI and Central Corridors. BANCF understands that the Significant Ecological Communities overlay will be removed with the adoption of the proposed natural resources regulations. BANCF supports the removal of these overlays or special area plans to minimize the conflicting regulatory requirements which currently affect many areas. One of the primary goals of the adoption of a Form Based Code in Gainesville should be to provide predictability to land owners and minimize conflicting regulations.