

City of Gainesville

City Hall
200 East University Avenue
Gainesville, Florida 32601



Meeting Agenda

May 12, 2016

1:00 PM

Roberta Lisle Kline Conference Room (Room 16)

City Hall, 200 East University Avenue, Gainesville FL

General Policy Committee

Mayor Lauren Poe (At Large)

Commissioner Harvey Budd (At Large)

Mayor-Commissioner Pro Tem Helen Warren (At Large)

Commissioner Charles Goston (District 1)

Commissioner Todd Chase (District 2)

Commissioner Craig Carter (District 3)

Commissioner Adrian Hayes-Santos (District 4)

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ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA**AGENDA STATEMENT****ROLL CALL - 1:04 PM****COMMITTEE DISCUSSION ITEMS**[160002.](#)**Organizational Issues (NB)****RECOMMENDATION**

The General Policy Committee discuss organizational issues to include but not limited to meeting scheduling, duration of meetings and meeting locations.

[160007.](#)**City Commission Discussion of Key City/County Issues (B)**

This is a request for the City Commission to discuss key City/County issues including the Local Option Gas Tax, the Voter Referendum on Extension of Wild Spaces Public Places, the Annexation Transition Agreement, a Shared Fire Station Alerting System to Improve Fire Rescue Response Times and The Evolution of Bed Tax Funding for the Arts.

Explanation: The City/County relationship/partnership is of great importance. The City and County have many common interests and existing partnerships that work to the benefit of both the City and County. In reviewing key outstanding issues between the City and County, staff believes the City Commission would be well served by dedicating time to discuss some of these key issues in preparation for future City Commission discussion/engagement with the County Commission on the topics.

The key issues for discussion on May 12, 2016 include: the Local Option Gas Tax, the Voter Referendum on Extension of Wild Spaces Public Places, the Annexation Transition Agreement, a Shared Fire Station Alerting System to Improve Fire Rescue Response Times and The Evolution of Bed Tax Funding for the Arts.

Brief summaries of these items are provided below; however, staff analyses have been prepared providing a more comprehensive briefing on the topics.

The Local Option Gas Tax was discussed at the May 5, 2016 City Commission meeting. City staff will address questions/issues raised and seek direction from the City Commission in preparation for the May 19, 2016 City Commission meeting.

The Voter Referendum on Extension of Wild Spaces Public Places has

proceeded with the County and municipalities providing project lists. One key outstanding issue is the need for an agreement with the County for distribution of funds raised through the sales surtax. City and County staff have met on a number of occasions to discuss the distribution of funds. The City Commission will be updated on the status of these negotiations.

The Annexation Transition Agreement expired at the end of September 2014. Commissioner Carter and City staff as well as Commissioner Pinkoson and County staff have met on a number of occasions to negotiate revisions to the previous Annexation Transition Agreement. The City Commission will be updated on the status of these negotiations.

The Shared Fire Station Alerting System to Improve Fire Rescue Response Times has been under discussion between Fire Chief Lane and his counterpart with the County Chief Northcutt. The City Commission recently approved the City's purchase of the new system. The City Commission will be provided with an update on negotiations for a City/County partnership in implementing this new system.

The Evolution of Bed Tax Funding for the Arts addresses City staff concerns with a report sent by Hippodrome staff to the County Commission that included inaccurate statements and recommendations detrimental to the City. The report was included as the sole backup for a County Commission discussion of the topic. City staff recently met with members of the Hippodrome Board and staff. City staff will provide an update.

Fiscal Note: Fiscal impact is addressed as appropriate in the staff analyses.

RECOMMENDATION The City Commission discuss the key City/County issues and provide guidance and direction as appropriate.

[160007A_WSPP Staff Analysis 20160512.pdf](#)

[160007B_ATA Staff Analysis Form 20160512.docx.pdf](#)

[160007C_Fire Station Alerting Staff Analysis 20160512.pdf](#)

[160007D_Bed Tax Staff Analysis 20160512.pdf](#)

[150938.](#)

Interlocal Agreement with Alachua County for Local Option Fuel Tax (B)

Section 336.025, Florida Statutes allow counties to impose a local option gas tax of one- to eleven-cents on motor fuel sold in a county, with the revenue generated by such tax to be used by county and municipal governments only for transportation expenditures authorized by law. There are three interlocal agreements with Alachua County identifying the formulas for the distribution of these funds.

Explanation: This is an informational item. Section 336.025, Florida Statutes permits

the County the authority to levy a local option gas tax upon every gallon of motor fuel and special fuel sold in the County and taxed under the provisions of Chapter 206, F.S. Alachua County first levied the 4th, 5th, and 6th cents of the gas tax in 1985, and in June 2015 extended the levy by ordinance until August 31, 2016. The gas tax proceeds are distributed in accordance with an Interlocal Agreement with the City of Gainesville, effective September 1, 2015 to December 31, 2016. The distribution of the 4th, 5th and 6th cents established in this Interlocal Agreement is Alachua County 60.36% and the City of Gainesville 33.33%, with the remainder distributed amongst the other municipalities.

The Interlocal Agreement between Alachua County and the City of Gainesville for the distribution of the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd cents is effective September 1, 1988 to August 31, 2018. This distribution is Alachua County 43.94% and the City of Gainesville 43.94%, with the remainder distributed amongst the other municipalities. There is a third Interlocal Agreement that was entered into in May 2007 and expiring August 2018 for the additional five cents of local option gas tax, which distributes 52.10% to Alachua County and 38.635% (average of the two previous distribution percentages) to the City of Gainesville.

Based on an average of mileage of roadway and population distribution, Alachua County would receive 51.884% and the City of Gainesville 37.468%. If the formula was based on percentage of road mileage the distribution would be 62.023% to Alachua County and 25.141% to the City of Gainesville. Using just population, the distribution is 41.745% Alachua County and 49.795% City of Gainesville. Using the default formula of transportation expenditures, the City of Gainesville distribution is approximately 66.67%.

After numerous attempts by City staff to initiate negotiations on the gas tax after a one year extension of the interlocal agreement for the 4th, 5th and 6th cents in June 2015, Alachua County and City of Gainesville staff met on March 28, 2016 to discuss the possibility of combining the Interlocal Agreements into one Interlocal Agreement for all eleven cents of the gas tax. The term of the tax and distribution formula were discussed as well.

City staff will provide a presentation and address questions. Based on City Commission discussion and guidance as well as any further discussions with County staff, an agenda item can be placed on the May 19, 2016 agenda for City Commission action on an interlocal agreement.

Fiscal Note: The current annual distribution to the City is approximately \$4.66 million or 38.635% of overall gas tax revenues.

RECOMMENDATION

The City Commission: 1) hear an informational presentation from City staff and 2) provide guidance including direction that the Interlocal Agreement for Distribution of the Local Option Gas Tax be placed on the May 19, 2016 City Commission agenda.

Teresa Scott made a presentation.

[150938A_Gas Tax Graph_20160505.pdf](#)
[150938B_Gas Tax Estimates under Different Agreement Options_20160505.pdf](#)
[150938-MOD_Gas Tax Powerpoint_20160505.pdf](#)
[150938_agreement local option fuel tax_20160519.pdf](#)
[150938A_Gas Tax Presentation GPC_20161013.pdf](#)
[150938B_Proposed Interlocal Spreadsheet_20161013.pdf](#)
[150938C_Transp Exp-Self Defined Spreadsheet_20161013.pdf](#)
[150938D_Transp Exp AFR Spreadsheet_20161013.pdf](#)
[150938E_Transp Exp DOT Spreadsheet_20161013.pdf](#)
[150938F_Population Spreadsheet_20161013.pdf](#)
[150938G_Road Miles Spreadsheet_20161013.pdf](#)
[150938H_Charts and Graphs_20161013.pdf](#)

160003.

Bus Pass Program for the Homeless (B)

This item is a request for the City Commission to consider and approve the proposed financial plan to provide a bus pass program for the residents of GRACE Marketplace and Dignity Village. This would include authorizing staff to participate with the Alachua County Community Transportation Coordinator in a State grant program to provide transportation services for the homeless at the same location.

Explanation: At Citizen's Comment on May 5, 2016, the City Commission received a comment from Theresa Lowe, Alachua County Coalition for the Homeless and Hungry (ACCHH) Executive Director, regarding the need for interim bus services for the homeless at GRACE Marketplace and Dignity Village. The City has determined that the current Homeless Bus Pass Program is unsustainable and that the program needs to be restructured to comply with state and federal rules and regulations.

City staff had meetings with Theresa Lowe on April 18th and April 25th to discuss the restructuring of the Homeless Bus Pass Program and to seek input and feedback from ACCHH, allowing ACCHH the opportunity to develop a program to fit their needs as the primary homeless service provider. However, ACCHH did not provide any suggestions on how to restructure the program or identify priorities for a new program. As such, City staff proposed a plan to partner with the Alachua County Community Transportation Coordinator (CTC), MV Transportation, to apply for a Florida Commission for the Transportation Disadvantaged (CTD) Mobility Enhancement Grant. If awarded, this grant can provide transportation assistance for homeless individuals starting on July 1, 2016. In the interim, City staff would continue to work to identify a stop-gap measure to ensure that transportation services for the homeless would continue during the application and implementation period.

The Homeless Bus Pass Program was modeled after the current Employee Bus Pass Program, but homeless ridership has been much greater than anticipated and therefore unsustainable at the current rates. The City Commission requested staff look at an alternative approach to providing interim bus services for homeless persons between May 18th and June 30th, while the City, the CTC, and ACCHH partner to apply for the CTD Mobility Enhancement Grant. City staff recommends that the Homeless Bus Pass Program be restructured not only to comply with state and federal rules and regulations, but also to be a better fit with a new paradigm in our community that is being proposed by the local Continuum of Care (CoC) to address Rapid Rehousing and the Housing First Model.

If awarded, the grant can provide up to \$55,350 (including the required 10% local match) to allow the City provide transportation services for the homeless beginning on July 1, 2016. City staff is proposing the use of \$3,485 from the remaining General Fund dollars allocated to the Cold Night Shelter Program for FY 2016 and \$2,050 from the Gain Settlement to provide the \$5,535 in matching funds for the grant. The grant would provide funding for up to 225 monthly passes each month for ACCHH to distribute to homeless. In order to make this program viable, an agreement will need to be drafted between the CTC, ACCHH, and the City stating what each party will be responsible for in order to meet the grant requirements. The CTC has been in contact with State officials about the grant and is confident that they will receive this funding. The grant awards are scheduled to be announced in late May or early June.

As part of the interim plan, City staff is also suggesting that the \$15,000 allocated for the Homeless Bus Pass Program be used to purchase monthly passes for ACCHH to provide bus services during the time period between the end of the current program until the implementation of the grant. Staff is estimating that approximately \$8,750 is needed to provide interim bus services for approximately 2 months beginning on May 18th. RTS will work with ACCHH to determine how the monthly bus passes will be distributed and managed. This will also provide a good opportunity to establish a new process and work out issues before the grant is implemented. The remaining fund of \$6,250 will be placed in a contingency fund to cover any potential gap if there is a delay in the awarding of the grant to the CTC.

At this time, there is no fiscal impact to the budget since these funds have already been approved by the City Commission to be used for homeless services. Staff is asking the City Commission to authorize the use \$15,000 of the Bus Pass Program fund to cover the interim period and authorize the use of surplus funding in the amount of \$3,485 from the Cold Night Shelter Program and \$2,050 from the Gain Settlement to be provided as the local matching funds for the State Mobility Enhancement grant. If there is a change to the Homeless Bus Pass Program, staff will immediately notify the City Commission of any potential impact to the budget.

Fiscal Note: At this time, there is no impact to the FY 2016 Budget. There is a

surplus in the Cold Night Shelter fund in the amount of \$3,485 that could be re-allocated to the Bus Pass Program and \$2,050 is available in the Gain Settlement for homeless services, which could be used as matching funds for the grant. The City Commission had previously allocated \$15,000 for the Homeless Bus Pass Program for FY 2016.

RECOMMENDATION

The City Commission 1) authorize staff to use \$3,485 of surplus funds from the Cold Night Shelter Program and \$2,050 from the Gain Settlement Funds as matching funds to partner with the Alachua County Community Transportation Coordinator for the Florida Commission for the Transportation Disadvantaged Mobility Enhancement Grant; 2) authorize staff to use the previously-approved FY 2016 Bus Pass Program funding of \$15,000 to fund homeless transportation services during the interim period between the end of the current program on May 18 and the beginning of the grant period on July 1, with any remaining monies to be allocated to a Bus Pass Contingency Fund if there is a need during the fiscal year; and 3) authorize the City Manager or designee to enter into an agreement for the CTD Grant Program.

Alternative Recommendation: Direct staff to return to the City Commission with other approaches for interim bus services at the next City Commission meeting of May 19, 2016.

[160003A_Bus Pass Program Restructuring Memo_20160512.doc.pdf](#)

[160003B_Mobility Enhancement Grant manual_20160512.pdf](#)

[160003A-MOD_Bus Pass Program Restructuring Memo_20160519.pdf](#)

[160003B-MOD_Mobility Enhancement Grant Manual_20160519.pdf](#)

[160001.](#)

Election Services Agreement (B)

RECOMMENDATION

The City review the letter from the Supervisor of Elections and review the Election Services Agreement.

[160001_election services agreement_20160519.pdf](#)

[160001_Election Letter_20160512.pdf](#)

ADJOURNMENT - 4:36 PM

Kurt Lannon, Clerk of the Commission

