RESOLUTION No. 020486

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF GAINESVILLE, FLORIDA, SUPPORTING THE STATE DEPARTMENT OF ELDER AFFAIRS' INITIATIVE TO WORK TOWARDS MAKING FLORIDA'S COMMUNITIES "ELDER READY"; AND PROVIDING AN IMMEDIATE EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, the City Commission of the City of Gainesville, Florida supports the Department of Elder Affairs' initiative to make Florida "Elder Ready", so elders can be independent as long as possible, and to remain in their homes and in the communities they love; and,

WHEREAS, the State of Florida has the highest percentage of elders of any state in the nation, and our elder population will continue to increase, reaching numbers without precedent in the first part of the 21st Century; and,

WHEREAS, in order to allow elders to maintain their dignity, security and independence, communities must evaluate, assess and modify their infrastructures to become Elder Ready; and,

WHEREAS, the City Commission of the City of Gainesville and the Department of Elder Affairs share the vision and responsibility to improve the life of all its citizens, so they can prepare for and enjoy aging in place throughout their lives; and,

WHEREAS, in order to achieve our mutual goals, cities, towns and counties should begin to build together a place free of mobility barriers; and,

WHEREAS, the Alachua County Department of Community
Support Services, Office of Senior Services, created the Alachua

County Partners for Elder Readiness (ACPER) team in August, 2001 to promote Elder Readiness throughout Alachua County, and to research the present conditions and future needs of elders within all of our communities.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF GAINESVILLE, FLORIDA:

- 1. That the City Commission of the City of Gainesville hereby resolves to make every effort to first identify and evaluate, and later to mitigate or remove barriers in order for Gainesville to become Elder Ready.
- 2. That this resolution shall take effect immediately upon its adoption.

DULY ADOPTED in regular session, this $\underline{14th}$ day of October, A.D., 2002.

By:

Thomas D. Bussing

Mayor

ATTEST:

Kurt Larmon, Clerk of the Commission

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND LEGALITY

(SEAL)

Marion Radson, City Attorney

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