

2009 FEDERAL APPROPRIATION REQUESTS (IN PRIORITY ORDER):**1. Depot Avenue Stormwater/Sewer Improvements**

To date, phase two of the project which includes cleanup and construction of the remaining stormwater facility and roadway are well into the advanced planning and permitting stages. The City of Gainesville requests \$4.8 million in order to complete the stormwater improvement portion of the project which is integral with the reconstruction of Depot Avenue

2. RTS Administration, Operations and Maintenance Facility Expansion

The City of Gainesville Regional Transit System (RTS) provides public transit service to the City of Gainesville and the adjacent areas of Alachua County. The RTS service area is approximately 75 square miles with a total of 45 fixed routes, including 10 University of Florida (UF) campus shuttles. RTS benefits from a highly successful partnership with UF, providing the community with more than 8.9 million passenger trips in FY 2007 and an average of 45,000 weekday trips. RTS is requesting \$12 Million to continue the expansion of its administration, operations and maintenance facility. Over the past nine years, the demand for transit services has outstripped RTS resources. RTS has completed the first two of three project phases using local, state and federal funds. Phase one included the construction of an employee parking lot and phase two consisted of site work in preparation for the facility expansion. Phase three will consist of the expansion of the RTS administration, operations and maintenance facility.

3. Depot Park Development Project

The Project is a \$9.75 million program to develop the recreation amenities, rehabilitate the Gainesville Train Depot, provide support facilities such as parking and restrooms, and create a setting for a new museum. This funding request is for \$6.2 million, which will be used to complete development of the park site. The Depot Park site improvements complement ongoing revitalization efforts underway in the area such as constructing rails-to-trails, new housing, and improvements to the adjacent Porters Neighborhood. The park is a key component in redeveloping the urban core and is adjacent to the University of Florida, one of the nation's largest universities, the Health Sciences Center, and downtown Gainesville. The first phase of brownfield cleanup and preliminary park construction has been completed. Phase Two cleanup planning, regulatory approvals, and park design tasks are into advanced stages.

4. Paynes Prairie Sheetflow Restoration

The City of Gainesville is requesting \$2 million in funding for a water quality / surface water resource improvement and protection project. The project will meet Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) requirements and improve water quality in Alachua Sink, a lake located within the Paynes Prairie Preserve State Park, restore over 1,300 acres of natural wetlands, and help protect a vital water supply for the state, the Floridan Aquifer. The Paynes Prairie Sheetflow Restoration project is included as a priority in the St. Johns River Water Management District Orange Creek Basin, State Funding Initiative.

5. Gainesville Homeless Mental Health Services Initiative

This initiative will further one of the key goals of the 10-Year Plan, which is to expand mental health and substance abuse services to serve up to 300 additional homeless persons over a two-year period for a total cost of \$800,000 (\$400,000 per year). If funded, these critical services will be provided through experienced local providers such

as Meridian Behavioral Healthcare and CDS Family & Behavioral Health Services, which have partnered with the City and County in the past to create the 10-Year Plan

6. Traffic and I-75 Freeway Management System

The City of Gainesville requests \$7,505,400 in Homeland Security funds to complete phase five of the Alachua County Traffic Management System (TMS). Funds will be applied toward the completion of the I-75 Freeway Management portion of the Alachua County TMS. The Alachua County TMS is a five-year five phase regional project coordinated with Alachua County, Marion County, the City of Gainesville, the University of Florida and the Florida Department of Transportation. \$18.2 million has been funded for the initial four phases by the regional partnership. When complete the system will provide real time monitoring and surveillance capabilities of the I-75 Corridor and all other major streets and highways throughout the county to the Alachua County Combined Communications Office, Alachua County Office of Emergency Management and the City of Gainesville's Traffic Management Center; as well as allow monitoring and surveillance capabilities to the Unified Command Team during University of Florida home football game weekends when the stadium is hosting 90,000 people.

7. City of Gainesville and Alachua County Public Schools Partnership for Student Success – Opening the Doors to Math and Science for Disadvantaged Students

On behalf of the Partnership for Student Success, the City of Gainesville is requesting a total of \$636,800 to implement a comprehensive program aimed at closing the achievement gap in mathematics for the at-risk 9th and 10th grade students in the public high schools. While the total population of students in Alachua County made adequate yearly progress in mathematics in the 2007 FCAT assessment, African-American students, students with disabilities, and economically disadvantaged students did not. This contributed to two of the seven high schools in Alachua County being graded as "F" schools by the Florida Department of Education. In addition, the 4-year graduation rate for African-American students in Alachua County Public Schools is 51%. We have a significant achievement gap in Alachua County for disadvantaged students.

8. Small Business (Entrepreneurial) Program

This is a request for \$1 million to fund a program that will focus on providing job related skills and education to disadvantaged or at-risk 16-24 year old individuals. The concern is that there are individuals who fit within this age range who, for various reasons, find themselves without the skills and education to find gainful employment and therefore become at-risk of entering into detrimental behavior. This program will provide these individuals with business/entrepreneurial skills and assist them in moving away from at-risk behavior. The Small Business (Entrepreneurial) Program is in its initial planning phase and an appropriate funding request will be determined following discussions with various potential partners including: the School Board of Alachua County, FloridaWorks, Santa Fe Community College, Alachua County, and other community based partners.

9. Technology Infrastructure Improvements to the GPD Training Facility

The City of Gainesville is dedicated to providing the highest level of police service to its citizens as well as utilizing innovative methods to serve the community. To that end, the City has developed a Community Oriented Policing and Training Center. Two aspects of GPD's operations will be housed in this facility: the Community Oriented Policing and Training Center and the Joint Intel Center. The City of Gainesville has committed the funds to construct a new building to house the aforementioned facilities, which will cost

approximately \$6.5 million. The City is requesting \$1 million to pay for the technology infrastructure needs that are vital for each facility to be fully functional. The following is a brief overview of each facility and the role it will serve for the community.

10. Gainesville Homeless Employment Services Initiative

This initiative will further one of the key goals of the 10-Year Plan, which is to enhance educational, job training and employment options for homeless persons. This initiative proposes to enroll 350 homeless persons in employment services, train 200 of them in employability skills and place 150 of them in jobs over a two-year period at a total cost of \$300,000 (\$150,000 per year). If funded, these services will be provided through FloridaWorks, the regional workforce entity for Alachua and Bradford Counties, which has partnered with the City and County in the past to create the 10-Year Plan.