

City of Gainesville

*City Hall
200 East University Avenue
Gainesville, Florida 32601*



Meeting Agenda

February 24, 2011

1:00 PM

City Hall, Room 16

Recreation, Cultural Affairs and Public Works Committee

*Commissioner Scherwin Henry, Chair
Commissioner Thomas Hawkins, Member
Commissioner Jeanna Mastrodicasa, Member*

Persons with disabilities who require assistance to participate in this meeting are requested to notify the Equal Opportunity Department at 334-5051 or call the TDD phone line at 334-2069 at least two business days in advance.

CALL TO ORDER**ROLL CALL****ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA****APPROVAL OF MINUTES****100749.****Approval of the January 31, 2011 Recreation, Cultural Affairs and Public Works Committee Meeting Minutes (B)****RECOMMENDATION**

The Recreation, Cultural Affairs and Public Works Committee approve the minutes of the January 31, 2011 meeting as submitted.

100749_Meeting Minutes_20110224.pdf

DISCUSSION OF PENDING REFERRALS**100607****Northeast Neighborhood Veterans Memorial Park (B)**

Explanation: At the request of Commissioner Randy Wells this item was referred to the Recreation, Cultural Affairs & Public Works Committee on December 16, 2010. Commissioner Wells stated his interest in exploring the potential creation of a Northeast Neighborhood Veterans Memorial Park on property owned by the federal government where the Army Reserve Center was located before moving across the street on NE 8th Avenue. Commissioner Wells will provide his thoughts on the potential for this property and update the Committee on information he has gathered thus far.

Fiscal Note: This is an informational agenda item with no fiscal impact at this point. Fiscal impact would need to be determined as the concept matures.

RECOMMENDATION

The Committee hear from Commissioner Wells and interested citizens on a potential Northeast Neighborhood Veterans Memorial Park providing the Committee's thoughts and guidance as appropriate.

Legislative History

12/16/10 City Commission Referred (7 - 0)

Recreation, Cultural Affairs
and Public Works
Committee

100607_Draft Letter_20110224.pdf

090979.**Bike Trail Intersection Concern at East University Avenue and Waldo**

Road/Williston Road (B)

This item is to discuss options for modification of the existing trail crossing to improve cyclist and pedestrian safety.

Explanation: The City Commission referred this item to the Recreation, Cultural Affairs and Public Works Committee on April 15, 2010 to identify and evaluate options to enhance cyclist and pedestrian safety at this intersection. This issue was discussed at the Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Board meeting held on July 6, 2010; below are the options suggested:

- 1) *Modify the median at the southeast corner of the intersection extending the trail to cross at the intersection of Williston Road and SE 2nd Avenue - reduced traffic volume at this intersection may reduce conflicts;*
- 2) *Construct a pedestrian bridge - expensive; cyclists/pedestrians may continue to use the existing crossing as a direct/shorter route;*
- 3) *Modify the existing crosswalks to enhance visibility by installing diagonal markings;*
- 4) *Install an exclusive pedestrian phase ("barnyard dance" option) - this may not be feasible at this location due to the distance and high vehicular volumes; a sample application is available online at:
<<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IwNJYtmlyqw>>*
- 5) *Realign trail to the west to cross at W 10th Street - may have issues at the unsignalized crossing at UniversityAve, in addition cyclists/pedestrians may continue to use the existing crossing as a more convenient route;*
- 6) *Install a mid-block crossing north of the intersection similar to the one at Citizen's field located north of the intersection of NE 8th Avenue and Waldo Road.*

Additional options were identified at the February 17, 2011 Community Traffic Safety Team (CTST) and Alachua County Traffic Operations Team meetings, including:

- 1) *Utilization of SE 2nd Avenue as the main route for cyclists creating a signage plan that directs trail users from the trail to East 15th Street and NE 8th Avenue; this would also include widening of the sidewalk on the south side of NE 8th Avenue between NE 15th Street and Waldo Road - this may also require some modifications to the trail alignment to discourage crossing at the East University Avenue and Waldo Road.*

The alternatives need further evaluation to identify feasibility of application, operational impacts and costs. Any recommendation for installation will require approval of the Florida Department of Transportation.

Fiscal Note: None

RECOMMENDATION

The Recreation, Cultural Affairs and Public Works Committee hear presentation from staff.

Legislative History

4/15/10	City Commission	Referred (7 - 0)	Recreation, Cultural Affairs and Public Works Committee
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100270.**Status Update on the City Commission Strategic Initiative 6.2: Assess Neighborhoods to Determine Need for Infrastructure Improvements for Bicycle and Pedestrian Use (B)**

Strategic initiatives have been referred to Standing Committees to promote efficient and effective communication streams between elected officials, city staff and Gainesville residents concerning the implementation of the City's Strategic Plan.

Explanation: The City Commission referred the strategic initiatives included in the Strategic Plan to City Commission Standing Committees to give elected officials the opportunity to receive updates on progress and provide policy guidance on the development and implementation of the strategic plan throughout the year.

Fiscal Note: None

RECOMMENDATION

The Recreation, Cultural Affairs and Public Works Committee discuss the initiative.

Legislative History

8/5/10 City Commission Referred (7 - 0)

Recreation, Cultural Affairs
and Public Works
Committee

100270_Strategic Initiative 6-2_20110224.pdf
100270_PPT_20110224.pdf

MEMBER COMMENT**CITIZEN COMMENT****NEXT MEETING DATE - March 24, 2011 @ 1:00 PM****ADJOURNMENT**