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- 1.5.4 The City shall continue to cooperate with the County to identify areas of pollution to surface water and groundwater and to establish a monitoring program that provides an annual report describing present conditions and cleanup status. The City shall assist in identifying the parties responsible for the polluted areas and require such parties to mitigate pollution problems. The City shall continue to cooperate with the Alachua County Environmental Protection Department, the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP), the Water Management Districts, and the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and shall support the appropriate agencies with efforts to accomplish the following:
- a. Identify areas of pollution to surface waters and groundwater.
  - b. Establish a monitoring program that provides an annual report describing present environmental conditions and clean-up status.
  - c. Identify parties responsible for polluted areas, and require such parties to mitigate pollution problems.
  - d. Discourage the creation of new brownfield sites by implementing existing regulations and improving them as needed; and
  - e. Encourage environmentally sound development and redevelopment of existing brownfield sites.
- 1.5.5 The City shall continue to work with FDEP and Alachua County to prepare a plan which at a minimum will be consistent with National Pollution Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permitting to ensure that water discharged by Sweetwater Branch into Paynes Prairie will be discharged in a manner that will support the reasonable management objectives of FDEP, and City objectives regarding protection of the Floridan Aquifer, wastewater treatment and stormwater management.

**The City shall continue to work with state agencies to assure compliance with the State Comprehensive Plan, the North Central Florida Strategic Regional Policy Plan, and agency functional plans.**

- 1.6.1 The City shall comply with State pollution control requirements at the former Gainesville Airport Landfill and Burn Site described in the Solid Waste Element.
- 1.6.2 The City shall maintain a water conservation plan consistent with the Water Management Districts' plans.
- 1.6.3 The City shall pursue agreements with the SBAC for joint use and maintenance of SBAC recreation facilities at schools and develop policies for handling liability for public use of all school recreational facilities.

**Objective 1.6**

**Polices**



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- 1.6.4 The City shall improve the development process of group homes and foster care facilities by improving coordination with the Department of Children and Families and by disseminating information on requirements and procedures for siting them.
- 1.6.5 The City shall promote compact urban development by increasing densities, concentrating commercial and office activities in activity centers and improving access to non-auto transportation in the Transportation Concurrency Exception Area.
- 1.6.6 The City shall evaluate Development of Regional Impact (DRI) proposals that impact the City to ensure appropriate phasing so that the demands of such DRIs are integrated with the expected availability of facilities and services.

**Objective 1.7**

**The City shall work with community partners such as the University of Florida, Santa Fe Community College, the Gainesville Area Chamber of Commerce, Alachua County, and the Alachua County School Board to help develop the Innovative Economy within the non-residential areas of the Gainesville Innovation Zone. For purposes of this objective, Innovative Economy means those technology firms and/or entities that bring a new process or technique to the production process and that are often, but not exclusively, related in some manner to University driven research, and are generally represented by sectors such as Agritechology, Aviation and Aerospace, Information Technology, Life Sciences and Medical Technology.**

**Policies**

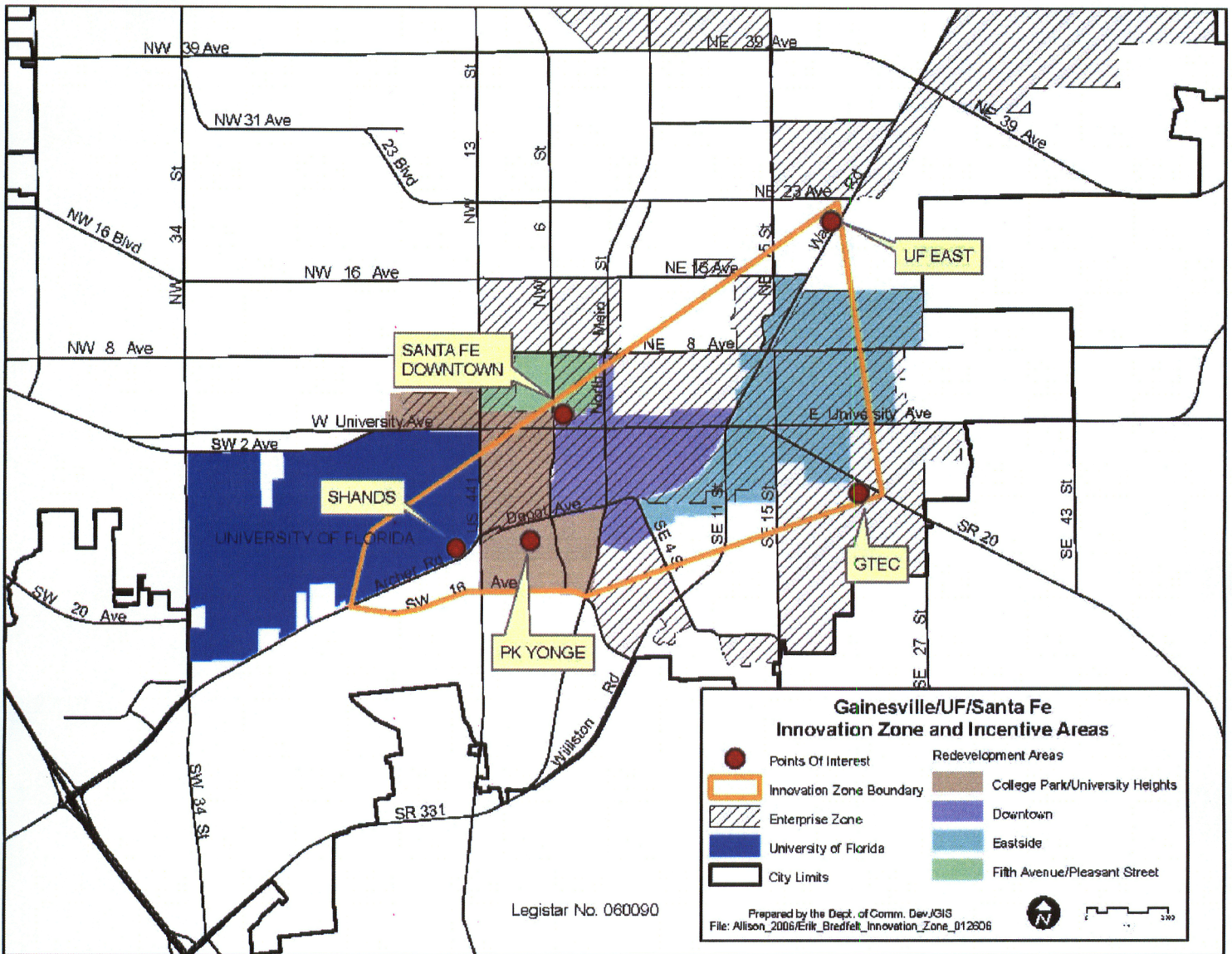
- 1.7.1 The City shall work with its community partners on the Economic Development University Community Committee (EDUCC) to encourage development of the Gainesville Innovation Zone.
- 1.7.2 The City shall review the comprehensive plan and the land development code within 18 months of the effective date of Policy 1.7.2. Should the review conclude that any amendments to the comprehensive plan or land development code are needed for the appropriate development of the Gainesville Innovation Zone, the City shall draft such amendments and present them to the City Plan Board within 24 months of the effective date of Policy 1.7.2.
- 1.7.3 The City shall work to ensure that adequate public infrastructure is in place for development of the Gainesville Innovation Zone.
- 1.7.4 The City shall work to ensure that pertinent local, state and federal incentive programs are made available to those seeking Innovative Economy development opportunities.
- 1.7.5 The City shall work to ensure that negative impacts resulting from Innovative Economy development within the Gainesville Innovation Zone are minimized, particularly with respect to adjacent residential areas.

**City of Gainesville Innovation Zone referral to City Plan Board  
City Commission Agenda Item Back-Up**

As mentioned in the agenda item text, the proposed Gainesville Innovation Zone has five foundational principles: 1) proximity; 2) existing community assets/investments; 3) existing public incentives; 4) the State of Florida's recent emphasis on developing the Innovative Economy; and, 5) similar efforts of Peer Cities.

The issue of fostering innovative economy opportunities *proximate* to UF campus has come not only from representatives of previously visited communities but more recently has been stressed by those seeking these opportunities within this community. In terms of existing assets, the boundaries of the Zone recognize *existing assets and investments* by various community partners including the main UF campus footprint and recently announced Eastside campus; Santa Fe Community College's downtown campus; and, downtown Gainesville and the Gainesville Technology Enterprise Center (GTEC). *Public incentives* exist in the form of those flowing from the Enterprise Zone and the overlapping Community Redevelopment Area's (CRA's) in the event that a gap is encountered by those seeking to foster development opportunities. *The State of Florida* has established the facilitation of the innovative economy as a primary objective of state economic development efforts. The University of Florida is a partner along with the University of Central Florida and University of South Florida in the Florida High Tech Corridor program. This program is designed to attract, retain and grow high tech industry and to help develop the workforce to support these industries. Currently, the University of Florida administers a matching grant research program that attempts to foster applied research between the University and industry partners. The Florida Legislature recently passed legislation including approximately \$350 million in FY 06/07 resources targeted at innovative economic development. Finally, several *peer cities* nationwide are establishing similar innovative/technology zones or corridors that spatially define areas of focused efforts designed to build critical mass for the local innovative economy.

The intent of the Gainesville Innovation Zone is not to create a new regulatory framework for innovative economy development within its boundaries. Currently, a development regulatory framework is in place via existing land use and zoning regulations including the recently adopted Urban Mixed Use categories. In some instances, overlapping land use and zoning regulations may need to be reviewed to ensure seamlessness and transparency as well as concurrence with the needs of the innovative economy community. Inclusion of the Gainesville Innovation Zone conceptual map and supporting objectives/policies in the Intergovernmental Element will institutionalize and define the City's efforts at building and developing this segment of the local economy in cooperation with local and State partners



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