

City of Gainesville
Funding Request Summary of Projects/Programs
for the
Legislative Agenda



Support a Strong Economy | Foster Greater Equity | Plan for a Better Future
Become a Community Model for the World

SUPPORT A STRONG ECONOMY

How might the City of Gainesville support small business, diverse job opportunities and accessibility to capital?

Cornerstone

Submitted by: Community Redevelopment Agency (Requesting State funding)

A 13.6 acre development is the largest undertakings of the Eastside Redevelopment District include the redevelopment of the Gainesville Technology Entrepreneurship Center (GTEC) area and the former Kennedy Homes site. The master plan includes a mixed use site with up to ten new commercial buildings, which will provide opportunities to retain GTEC business incubator graduates on site as well as attract new economic activity to the area.

Impact: The project aims to holistically address both the natural wetlands and improved storm water facilities to find the best mix to serve the needs of the projects.

Request: The project will be implemented in a single phase with the wetland mitigation as a segment of the horizontal improvements (\$1.9M).

Brave Overt Leaders of Distinction (BOLD)

Submitted by: Gainesville Police Department (Requesting State and Federal funding)

BOLD is a re-entry program for males between the ages of 18-24. The program works in collaboration with multiple community partners to allow young men with criminal records or adverse backgrounds, the opportunity to achieve goals and receive services to become law abiding, tax paying citizens in the community.

Impact: to allow young men with criminal records or adverse backgrounds, the opportunity to achieve goals and receive services to become law abiding, tax paying citizens in the community.

Request: \$200,000 to provide assistance in vocational training, job opportunities and placement.

FOSTER GREATER EQUITY

How will the City of Gainesville support accessibility to services, neighborhood preservation, affordable & accessible housing?

Reichert House Youth Academy

Submitted by: Gainesville Police Department (Requesting State and Federal funding)

Reichert House would like to expand its program to include a science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) program. Statistics show that STEM fields are currently dominated by white and Asian males, and minorities in underserved or struggling communities are at risk of being left behind. Many of our students lack access to up-to-date laboratories, laptops, tablets, computers, and internet access. The vision of Reichert House is to continue to address issues that have historically affected at-risk youth, but t students with access to a strong STEM education program which will lead to increased interest and improved attitudes toward STEM fields and careers. This will be accomplished through a partnership with the University of Florida.

Impact: The Reichert House after School Program (ASP) ensures safety for the students, provides supportive adult supervised environment, promotes academic, personal, social, and recreational development. The partnership with the University of Florida athletes and educational departments allows their students to earn volunteer community hours by tutoring the students.

Request: Establish STEM Program through partnership with the University of Florida – Reichert House requests \$200,000.00. The students will gain real life experience on a college campus and the financial support will allow the students to work closely with college students and increase their chances of attending college and reduce the risk of dropping out of school. Additionally, the grant will allow the Reichert House to secure three Graduate Assistant (GA) students from the University of Florida Education Department. Each GA will work closely with our Elementary, Middle and High School teachers' when performing their tutorial session.

Mental Health &Public Education for Violence Prevention

Submitted by: Gainesville Police Department (Requesting State and Federal funding)

The Gainesville Police Department is coordinating efforts between Meridian Behavioral Health Services, CDS Family and Behavioral Health Services, Inc., Alachua County Schools, the Court System (Eighth Judicial Circuit, FL) and Juvenile Justice Providers to develop a System of Care (SOC) for youth. Support services will include referrals for individual and family counseling, psychiatric referral, diversion to community conferencing, teen court, and restorative justice programs, mentoring, testing, and assessment.

Impact: to assess behavioral issues and collaboratively intervene with the student and family before these issues become arrestable offenses

Request: Funding in the amount of \$50,000 to support the development of the SOC to provide training to faculty, counselors and law enforcement officers for the purpose of improving communication with youth and families in crisis.

Domestic Violence

Submitted by: Gainesville Police Department (Requesting State and Federal funding)

Alachua County Office of Victim Services Rape Crisis Center will launch a website for anonymous reports of sexual assault. The site provides information about intimate partner violence, victim rights and free resources available in the community. The University of Florida will work with GPD to develop videos aimed at sexual assault prevention that will aired as public service announcements

Impact: Continue to expand outreach efforts and to address the effects of domestic and intimate partner violence in our community with increase awareness about prevention and support.

Request: In order to complete our domestic violence videos for public service announcements, we are requesting federal assistance in the amount of \$50,000.

Heartwood Community

Submitted by: Community Redevelopment Agency (Requesting State funding)

The Heartwood Community is owned by the City of Gainesville (COG), located at 1717 SE8th Avenue in Gainesville, FL. This important historic residential area has been the heart of the African-American community in Gainesville. The 15 acre parcel was the site of the Former Kennedy Homes public housing complex. The housing project was demolished due to disrepair in 2003 and purchased by the City of Gainesville in 2007.

Impact: Due to historical conditions the wetlands are in serious decline. A rare property rich with natural beauty including wildlife, wetlands, towering full oak trees and more, the proposed site is the beginning of a vibrant community that will enhance existing culture and enrich the quality of life.

Request:

The project will be implemented in a single phase with the wetland mitigation as a segment of the horizontal improvements (\$2.1).

PLAN FOR A BETTER FUTURE

How will the City of Gainesville support youth, seniors, families, programming, sustainability and natural resources?

City of Gainesville Bicycle/Pedestrian Safety Program

Submitted by: Mayor Lauren Poe (Requesting State funding)

From January to December of 2014 there were 122 bicycle and pedestrian related crashes in the city of Gainesville. A bicycle and pedestrian safety program is needed in order to prevent these collisions and to work toward a goal of zero deaths or serious injuries on our roads by 2025. Over half (55%) of these crashes occurred at intersections with marked crosswalks, indicating a need for education about who has the right of way and the need for vigilance when passing through intersections. Data from San Francisco's Walk First program showed that a driver failing to yield the right of way was the top factor in pedestrian crashes. A comprehensive education program followed by strong enforcement will increase awareness of existing traffic laws and safe practices for all street users.

Impact: Reduced crashes resulting in few serious injuries and deaths and significantly reduced property damage.

Request: Seek funding for 60K for enforcement and 80K for education which would include targeted promotional spots. The state currently provides money for the pedestrian program and partners with the University of Florida.

SW 62nd Blvd

Submitted by: Public Works (Requesting State and Federal funding)

The SW 62nd Blvd is a critical roadway project that will facilitate the movement of people and goods through the Gainesville Metropolitan Area, enhancing access to major employment centers, and alleviating congestion on the Federal Highway System (FHS). The project implements a new corridor with accommodation for multimodal facilities, enhancing safety and connectivity.

Impact: The project will serve as a reliever to the I-75 corridor between the interchanges of SR24/Archer Road and SR26/Newberry Road, reducing local traffic along the interstate, and aligning with federal and state objectives for enhanced capacity and mobility of long-distance freight and passengers resulting in decreased congestion, improved safety, and enhanced economic benefits for the region.

Request: The total cost of the project as a 2 lane corridor is estimated at approximately \$17 million. The City has a total of \$1.2 million in local match, not inclusive of other private contributions that enabled the completion of a segment of the project in 2015/2016. Approximately \$5 million is needed for right-of-way acquisition and \$10 million for construction of the project.

RTS and Bus Facility

Submitted by: Regional Transit Systems (Requesting Federal funding)

RTS aging fleet is due to RTS doubling fleet size since 1997 to address the huge ridership increases. Currently Federal Transit Administration (FTA) grants have helped to reduce the fleet age to approximately 10.8 years but almost half the fleet exceeds their useful life in years or mileage per FTA standards. A recent study prepared for the City Commission found that switching to CNG buses would reduce RTS' annual operating costs by over \$13,000 per bus and over a 30-year period result in a savings of almost \$40 million.

Impact: Economic impact includes reduction of RTS' annual operating costs by over \$13,000 per bus and over a 30-year period result in a savings of almost \$40 million. These savings could be used to address the over \$60 million capital bus funding deficit RTS is expecting over the same period.

Request: Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) facility upgrade and buses - RTS requests \$30,000,000. The request will ensure that RTS has proper infrastructure in place, be able to replace the fleet that passed its useful life, and have a cost-effective transition to CNG.

Sweetwater Branch Creek Improvements

Submitted by: Community Redevelopment Agency (Requesting State and Federal funding)

The corridor is a critical pedestrian and bicyclist corridor through the heart of Downtown Gainesville, Florida. It connects the Downtown Gainesville business district, large residential neighborhoods, and Main Headquarters Library with the Power District Redevelopment Area project (an up & coming 13-acre thriving revitalized neighborhood and economic hub) and the newly opened 32-acre Depot Park.

Impact: Increased safety, pedestrian & bike usability, and beautification enhancements for an improved public park corridor between major existing & future economic hubs, neighborhoods, and Depot Park will also be incorporated in the design and construction.

Request: \$3.1 million. The project can be implemented in the following phases: Sweetwater Branch Creek "Daylighting" project within the Power District Redevelopment Area design and construction (\$1.9 M) and upstream corridor enhancements design and construction (\$1.2M).

Biosolids Reuse Program

Submitted by: Gainesville Regional Utilities (Requesting State and Federal funding)

GRU operates two water reclamation facilities, Main Street Water Reclamation Facility (MSWRF) and Kanapaha Water Reclamation Facility (KWRF), which receive, treat and beneficially reuse approximately 16 million gallons per day of wastewater. The facilities produce biosolids as a byproduct of the treatment process, which are currently beneficially used as a fertilizer and soil amendment at a local farm. GRU's current biosolids operation has been in operation for over 30 years. However, recent changes in local and state regulations have resulted in costly requirements that have made land application at GRU's existing site in Alachua County infeasible.

Phase one and two have been completed. Phase 3: MSWRF Improvements - \$3.6 million phase is to begin in 2017 and be complete in 2020. This will include improvements to the headworks and screens at the MSWRF which are needed to ensure that the dewatering facility described above can function reliably.

Impact: Recent changes in local and state regulations have resulted in costly requirements that have made land application at GRU's existing site in Alachua County infeasible.

Request: Provide \$1,000,000 in federal funding for Fiscal Year 2018 to assist in the construction of Phase 3.

Police-Youth Dialogues

Submitted by: Gainesville Police Department (Requesting State and Federal funding)

As a response to RED (Racial and Ethnic Disparities) the Gainesville Police Department began holding monthly Police-Youth Dialogues in April of 2014. These dialogs bring twelve Officers and twelve youths between the ages of fourteen and twenty-three together in order to promote trust and understanding between the two groups.

Impact: to positively affect future interactions, helping the youth develop a new understanding of Police Officers and the Law, and enhancing the Officers' ability to de-escalate complex interactions with the youth.

Request: Funding needs associated with this program include costs to pay the facilitator from the River Phoenix Center for Peacebuilding (\$150 per session); along with advertising costs to promote the program to the community (radio/television advertisement costs \$5,000).

Become a Community Model for the World

How will the City of Gainesville support innovations from public safety and the public sector, connect local talent to issues, urban informatics and fellowship programs?

Body Worn Camera

Submitted by: Gainesville Police Department (Requesting State and Federal funding)

According to a Mesa (Arizona) pilot program, officers received 40% fewer complaints with cameras and had 75% fewer use of force complaints with cameras. An effort by the Gainesville Police Department's effort to be transparent to the community and more efficient the department will utilize body worn cameras. The cameras will also illicit community trust and improve outcomes in use of force and citizen complaints. This effort will mirror the President's Task Force on 21st Century Policing executive summary under pillar three. The Gainesville Police Department continues to be an innovator and leader in community policing.

Impact: the technology is perhaps most effective at actually preventing escalation during police-public interactions: whether that's abusive behaviour towards police or unnecessary use-of-force by police.

Request: In order to implement our body camera program, we are requesting federal assistance in the amount of \$629,000.

Special Operations Ambulance

Submitted by: Gainesville Fire Rescue (Requesting State funding)

Currently the SWAT Medics have no capability to transport a wounded victim, law enforcement officer, or suspect to the hospital. There have been a number of incidents where there were active engagements where law enforcement and our SWAT medics were denied an ambulance for stand-by and the situation resulted in the discharge of one or more weapons. The Officer involved shooting on I-75 in July 2015 spurred more support for a dedicated transport capable vehicle due to ACFR cancelling the standby ambulance. Most recently, there was a robbery/hostage situation that escalated into a man hunt in a wooded area for known armed suspects near Santa Fe High school that prompted the activation of the SWAT Medics. Because of the volatile circumstances GFR's medics requested an ambulance be dedicated to the incident and again, due to limited resources no ambulance was available to stand-by.

Impact: ACFR ambulances are in short supply which has led to an increase in demand for their availability to stage on high risk incidents types where there is "no confirmed patient" such as man hunts for armed suspects, hostage situations, and barricaded subjects.

Request: The estimated total cost for an equipped Type I Ambulance and all medical supplies is \$210,000.

PROGAMMATIC FUNDING AND POLICY:

Affordable Housing: Supports the William E. Sadowski Act of 1992 that creates a dedicated source of revenue for housing from a portion of documentary stamp taxes on the transfer of real estate.

Cultural Arts and Heritage Programs: Supports programs that provide an outlet for expression, and open dialog to assistance youth in coping with negative behavior.

Economic and Workforce Development: Support collaboration and partnerships to create forward-thinking, business-driven job growth policies that enhance the workforce by increasing career and entrepreneurship opportunities.

- Explore cutting edge in-building wireless solutions and technologies.

Emergency Communication System: Supports a mechanism for collection of the E911 fee on prepaid wireless services by retailers at the point of sale and establishes a new category in the E911 Trust Fund for revenues derived from this fee.

Florida Forever/Florida Community Trust – Supports full funding of the Florida Forever Program and the distribution of funds that support water and land conservation needs for the State of Florida.

Utilities: Supports local solutions for community concerns and needs for governance of the City utility.

COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS:

The City of Gainesville supports select priorities from Alachua County, Alachua County School Board, Gainesville Area Chamber of Commerce, Santa Fe College, University of Florida, and Career Source of North Central Florida