

City of Gainesville

City Hall
200 East University Avenue
Gainesville, Florida 32601



Meeting Agenda

April 9, 2015

1:00 PM

City Hall, Roberta Lisle Kline Conference Room

Recreation, Cultural Affairs and Public Works

Committee

Commissioner Lauren Poe, Chair
Commissioner Yvonne Hinson-Rawls, Member
Commissioner Helen Warren, 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

[140874.](#)

Recreation, Cultural Affairs and Public Works Committee Meeting Minutes of March 12, 2015 (B)

RECOMMENDATION

The Recreation, Cultural Affairs and Public Works Committee approve the minutes of the March 12, 2015 meeting as submitted.

[140874_Draft 3-12-15 RCAPW Minutes_20150409.pdf](#)

DISCUSSION OF PENDING REFERRALS

[140740.](#)

Hiring Vendors/Workers at Fairs/Events (B)

This item provides an update to the Recreation, Cultural Affairs and Public Works Committee regarding a referral by the City Commission on February 5, 2015 about hiring vendors/workers at fairs/events.

Explanation: At the February 5, 2015 City Commission meeting the process of hiring employees regarding background checks as well as the selection of vendors for events such as the Hoggetowne Medieval Faire was referred to the Recreation, Cultural Affairs and Public Works Committee (RCAPW).

With regards to background checks for City employees and/or City Temps, the Human Resources Department (HR) follows, in all cases, Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC) guidance related to the use of arrest and conviction records. This guidance requires that each case be reviewed individually regardless of the level of offense.

When reviewing backgrounds, HR takes into consideration the nature of work to be performed and responsibilities, the level of unreasonable risk the offense may pose, and the time that has passed since the offense or sentence.

The EEOC stresses that the fact that an individual was arrested is not proof that he engaged in criminal conduct. Therefore, an individual's arrest record standing alone cannot be used by an employer to take a negative employment action. However, an arrest may trigger an inquiry

into whether the conduct underlying the arrest justifies such action.

Additionally, if there appears to be a pattern of same or similar violations over a period of time, additional scrutiny may be given to the applicant's record.

To ensure compliance with the Department of Children and Families' (DCF) personnel standards and screenings, Parks, Recreation and Cultural Affairs (PRCA) positions that provide oversight of programs for children and youth require background screenings and fingerprinting, as a condition of employment which is done through Human Resources.

In cases where a background screening may negatively impact a hiring decision, the HR Director and, in some instances, the City Attorney is involved. In these cases, candidates are notified of the decision and afforded the opportunity to provide additional information he/she may wish to have considered. Depending on the circumstances the hiring department may or may not be notified about information found during the background check.

Regarding the selection and contracting of vendors for events and programming provided by Parks, Recreation and Cultural Affairs (PRCA), staff advertises and receives applications each year for the various annual events sponsored by the City. The application process outlines the vendor's requirements and responsibilities including indemnification and waiver of claims. PRCA receives approximately 200 applications for the Hoggetowne Medieval Faire (HMF). Each vendor might have from a few to dozens of employees or participants that work with them during the show. Limitations of staff and budget currently do not permit the background screening of each vendor, as well as their employees. It should be noted that more than 93% of the vendors at HMF have participated in this event for many years.

Based on this referral PRCA staff researched the background screening procedures for vendors/workers at fairs/events similar to the City's. Nine renaissance/medieval fairs that were directly contacted and three municipalities that were contacted through the National Recreation and Parks Association online forum responded to PRCA's request for information about their background screening procedures. This research indicated that the majority of respondents do not run background checks and have not felt it necessary, however two municipalities have implemented a new background screening process in the last year, which is undertaken and underwritten by their local police departments.

Based upon the information received, staff believes the procedures on contracting out with vendors are appropriate and consistent with other organizations. Staff is implementing a moderate change in its security procedures to increase overnight security presence on site at HMF throughout the duration of the faire.

Fiscal Note: The proposed change increase in overnight security at the HMF can be

made with existing, budgeted funds.

RECOMMENDATION

The Recreation, Cultural Affairs and Public Works Committee receive an update from staff regarding a referral by the City Commission on February 5, 2015 about hiring vendors/workers at fairs/events.

[140740A_Protocol_Standards_Research_20150409.pdf](#)

[140740B_SampleVendorForm_TX_20150409.pdf](#)

[140740C_SampleVendorApp_20150409.pdf](#)

[140740D_SampleVendorPolicy_20150409.pdf](#)

[140740E_Svc_Request_20150409.PDF](#)

[140514.](#)

Painted Intersections and Crosswalks (B)

This item is a referral from the City Commission.

Explanation: The City Commission referred the Students for New Urbanism (SFNU) proposal to uniquely paint pedestrian crosswalks on select City streets. The SFNU worked with the Public Works Department in fall 2014 to identify a location for SFNU to paint a crosswalk with chalk spray paint as a pilot project. SFNU believes a solution to provide crosswalks in locations where there are currently none located would be to allow citizens to submit design ideas and roll out painted artwork into intersections and crosswalks.

Following the February 12, 2015 discussion of this item the Committee requested the Public Works staff to work with the City Attorney's office to review peer city programs, determine feasibility of this program in Gainesville, and bring a report back to the Committee.

The City Attorney's office reviewed the City of Gainesville Code of Ordinances for possible references to the painting of crosswalks. Sec. 30-318(i): Murals and other works of art, as defined in Chapter 5.5, shall not require a sign permit provided that they meet any applicable regulations in section 30-320 and have no electrical parts or usage unless ULI listed, and contain no commercial message. Any part of a mural or work of art that contains a commercial message shall require a sign permit and shall be included within the applicable calculation of maximum allowable sign area. A second reference is to the definition of "obscene" (as defined in 30-23) signs, including art/murals, are prohibited by Sec. 30-317(14).

Madison, Wisconsin has a Decorative Pavement Painting Ordinance which states that the program is not intended to create a forum for speech; allow only decorative designs and patterns and not text, symbols, overt messages, or images designed to convey a message. The Ordinance further states that the decision whether to approve a proposed intersection/design is a local affair of the government of the

City of Madison and is only allowed on "local" streets with a speed limit of not more than 25 mph, and not on federal, state, or county highways. The City Traffic Engineer must approve the location via a permit application. Applicant must indemnify the City and provide proof of insurance. In addition, the applicant is required to contact the Alder over the specific location and obtain an email or letter of support from the Alder.

Boulder, Colorado has a Paint the Pavement program that allows neighbors to apply for a location for the Paint the Pavement mural application. An Agreement and Permit Application is required. Eligible locations include residential streets; generally at an intersection carrying less than 2,500 vehicles per day or for mid-block locations the street should carry less than 1,250 vehicles per day. The location is subject to approval by the City Traffic Engineer. In addition the applicant is required to obtain the Boulder Arts Commission approval prior to the public art installations.

Both Madison and Boulder provide direction on the type of paint that is allowable. Both require that the paint not result in a slippery surface and not be retroreflective.

*As part of its Complete Streets initiatives the City of Ft. Lauderdale hosted the Connecting the Blocks Painted Intersection Project at three intersections. In advance of the painting all four approaches to the intersection were brought up to ADA standards. Each project must comply with the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD) standards, thus addressing safety and regulatory concerns (including use of non-slip paint). More information can be found at:
<http://www.fortlauderdale.gov/departments-/transportation-mobility/transportation-division/building-community-today/connecting-the-blocks-painted-intersections>*

Fiscal Note: There is no fiscal impact associated with the discussion of this item.

RECOMMENDATION

The Recreation, Cultural Affairs and Public Works Committee discuss peer city programs and the feasibility of a similar program in Gainesville.

[140514 Painted Intersections 20150212.pdf](#)

[140514A_Intersection Painting PPT 20150409.pdf](#)

[140514B_Madison Ordinance 20150409.pdf](#)

[140514C_Boulder CO Paint Program 20150409.pdf](#)

[130508.](#)

Strategic initiative 6.3: Identify Steps of Implementation for the Parks, Recreation & Cultural Affairs Master Plan and Continued Acquisition of Conservation land (B)

This item involves a request for the Recreation, Cultural Affairs and

Public Works Committee to review and recommend to the City Commission that they approve an update to the priority list of the Land Conservation and Acquisition Program.

Explanation: At the November 15, 2012 meeting, the City Commission approved the Parks, Recreation and Cultural Affairs Master Plan and directed staff to return to the Commission at a later date with funding option scenarios.

At the July 30 and September 23, 2013, Recreation, Cultural Affairs and Public Works Committee meetings, various funding options were presented. Two options were discussed in-depth: A) a dedicated millage increase, and B) a county-wide sales tax similar to Wild Spaces Public Places. Committee members agreed to have discussions with area municipal elected officials and county commissioners to determine interest in pursuing a county-wide sales tax.

On November 25, 2013, staff presented an economic analysis of the Wild Spaces Public Places impact on local businesses that were contracted to provide services for design and construction projects. An analysis of Wild Spaces Public Places project expenditures that remained in the City, Alachua County, the Region, and the State and outside of Florida was completed.

On January 27, 2014, staff was directed to return at a later date to have further discussion on the funding options and to prepare a detailed list of projects to be funded by priority. Staff is returning to the Committee now with an updated land acquisition priority list for consideration and recommendation to the City Commission. The original list was approved by the City Commission on November 20, 2008.

Since 2009, the City has been attempting to acquire the top and second priority properties. Some landowners have been willing to sell, but others have not. Since many of the priority landowners are unwilling to sell or are at an impasse on price, staff reevaluated undeveloped parcels within City limits that are contiguous with existing park land, or that would provide corridor connections for the Hogtown Creek Greenway. Thirteen parcels of interest were identified and added to the land acquisition priority listing under the "2012 Additions" heading. On April 5, 2012, the City Commission approved this update to the Priority Land Acquisitions list.

To date, approximately 400 acres of park land listed on the priority table have been acquired by the City. Staff has continued to evaluate and update the priority list. Acquired properties have been removed from the list and new priority properties have been added for consideration. The acquisition list has been reformatted to provide more information and facilitate easier updating. New detail columns have been added for the project name, acquisition status, and to identify whether the parcel has been previously approved for acquisition by the City Commission. There is also a new column called "contingent on," which details the preferred order of the acquisitions for a particular project, when one project

includes multiple parcels. Lastly, colors have been added to more clearly delineate one project from another.

Twenty one (21) new potential passive/conservation parcels have been proposed. In accordance with Parks, Recreation and Cultural Affairs Departmental policy on "Acquisition of Conservation Lands," additional parcels were selected by the following prioritization criteria: a) expand an existing conservation area; b) connect existing conservation areas together, or c) are within a Strategic Ecosystem, or have sensitive habitat, or the potential for species that are listed statewide or nationally as rare, threatened, or endangered. In addition eight (8) additional parcels have been included that have potential for recreational corridor connection or adjacent to existing parks or properties. Lastly, the PRCA Master Plan recommends eight (8) new neighborhood parks whose locations will need to be determined; this will need to be brought back to the Committee at a later date.

Fiscal Note: Approximately \$1,448,987 remains in the Greenspace Acquisition Fund and is available for continued acquisition of conservation and/or passive recreation lands.

RECOMMENDATION

The Recreation, Cultural Affairs and Public Works Committee: 1) review the Land Conservation and Acquisition Table, and 2) recommend to the City Commission that they approve an update to the priority list of the Land Conservation and Acquisition Program.

[130508A Master Plan Presentation 20150108 .pdf](#)

[130508B Achievements List 20150108.pdf](#)

[130508C Master Plan Prioritization List 20150108.pdf](#)

[130508D Master Plan Recommendations 20150108.pdf](#)

[130508 Rev Master Plan Project List 20150212.pdf](#)

[130508A COG Ltr 20150312.pdf](#)

[130508B TPL Proposal 20150312.pdf](#)

[130508 MOD TPL Proposal 20150319.pdf](#)

[130508A List 20150409.pdf](#)

[130508B Maps 20150409.pdf](#)

[140444.](#)

Strategic Initiative 1.3 Develop Strategies to Improve Safety for All Modes of Transportation (B)

Explanation: This item has been placed on the Committee's agenda at the request of the Strategic Planning staff. Strategic Initiative 1.3 is a new initiative that was added as part of the City Commission's Strategic Plan that was adopted last fall. This Strategic Initiative was discussed during the City Commission's Strategic Planning Retreat last year. The details of this Strategic Initiative were not been identified. This Strategic Initiative was

referred to the Recreation, Cultural Affairs and Public Works (RCAPW) Committee as well as the Public Safety Committee. Since both members of the Public Safety Committee also serve on the RCAPW Committee, staff thought it would make sense to bring this item before the RCAPW Committee for discussion and guidance.

There is overlap with Strategic Initiative 1.3 and Strategic Initiative 5.1 Promote an Integrated Transportation System That is Safe and Accessible to All Users and Supportive of the City's Economic Development and Sustainability Efforts. Public Works and GPD have worked together for many years and continue to work together on improving safety as identified under Strategic Initiative 5.1.

One option is for Strategic Initiative 1.3 to be incorporated into Strategic Initiative 5.1 since this is now an integrated strategic initiative covering all modes of transportation and also including safety. Another option is to retain Strategic Initiative 1.3 as a separate strategic initiative and direct staff to draft the proposed details and return to the RCAPW Committee for approval.

Fiscal Note: This is no fiscal impact.

RECOMMENDATION *The Committee provide direction on Strategic Initiative 1.3 Develop Strategies to Improve Safety for All Modes of Transportation.*

[140444_Strategic Initiatives 1.3 and 5.1_20150409.pdf](#)

[140180.](#)

Recreation, Cultural Affairs and Public Works Committee Referrals (B)

RECOMMENDATION *The Recreation, Cultural Affairs and Public Works Committee review and prioritize the list of pending referrals.*

[140180 Pending Referrals 20140731.pdf](#)

[140180 Pending Referrals 20140820.pdf](#)

[140180 Pending Referrals 20140911.pdf](#)

[140180 Pending Referrals 20141009.pdf](#)

[140180 Pending Referrals 20141113.pdf](#)

[140581 Staff Presentation 20150108.pdf](#)

[140180 Pending Referrals 20150212.pdf](#)

[140180 Pending Referrals 20150312.pdf](#)

[140180 Pending Referrals 20150409.pdf](#)

MEMBER COMMENT

CITIZEN COMMENT

NEXT MEETING DATE - Thursday, May 14, 2015

ADJOURNMENT