STRATEGIC INITIATIVE # 2.4

GOAL #2: ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND REDEVELOPMENT

Foster economic development and encourage redevelopment

INITIATIVE 2.4: CONTINUE TO REMOVE BARRIERS (REGULATION REVIEW, PROJECT FACILITATION), CONSOLIDATE LAYERS OF REGULATION AND CONSIDER EXPANDING TEAM TO INCLUDE OUTSIDE REPRESENTATION

Champion: Erik Bredfeldt, Director of Planning and Development Services

Sponsoring Commissioner: Thomas Hawkins, Commissioner (At-large)

Community Development Committee

Stakeholders: General public, construction industry, investors and developers

Desired Outcome: Stakeholders have indicated that the regulatory regimen in the City has been made more transparent and user-friendly. Active participation from outside representatives has been established.

Background: This Strategic Initiative was first introduced by the City Commission in December, 2006 at the Strategic Planning Retreat. The Initiative was later adopted and added to the Strategic Plan on February 12, 2007, then adopted again on February 25, 2008 as an on-going initiative.

Progress to Date:

During FY 2007, the Director of Planning and Development Services worked with a team of individuals from Information Technology, Building, Code Enforcement and Planning to rank vendors associated with an electronic plan management system designed to track workflow associated with the Planning and Development Services Department. It is anticipated that this system will be operational sometime in mid 2008. In terms of project facilitation, staff worked on several projects in the Airport Industrial Park, Airport proper and within the Innovation Zone. Planning and Development Services staff has been meeting with the private construction industry to re-examine parts of the Development Review Process.

Supporting Documentation:

- Innovation Zone Map
- Development Review Process Analysis

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Action Plan to Remove Barriers for FYs 2009 - 2010

	Action Steps	Estimated Completion Date:
1.	Work with Planning Consultant to review the Comprehensive Plan and Land Development Code	June 2010
2.	Develop a review process that will be specific to City Projects	June 2009
3.	Continue working with industry representatives on processes Survey users of First-Step Process	On-going
4.	Implement Planned Electronic Management Systems	December 2008

Critical Success Measures:

- Percent of residents who used the Internet to conduct business with the City of Gainesville
- Percent of residents who believe that land use, planning and zoning services are of excellent or good quality in the City of Gainesville
- Percent of First-Step Process participants who believe that the process of working with City Staff was user-friendly
- Funding is identified and adopted to hire a Planning Consultant to review the Comp Plan and Land Development Code