

# ConnectFree Program Update

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Neighborhood Improvement Department

**GENERAL POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING**  
**OCTOBER 11, 2018**

**Gainesville.**

**Citizen centered**

**People empowered**

# ConnectFree Program

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**Citizen centered**  
**People empowered**

- Reinstated July 21, 2016
- Funds are collected through a surcharge on connection charges in the unincorporated area
- Goals
  - Increased connections
  - Affordable Housing revenue source

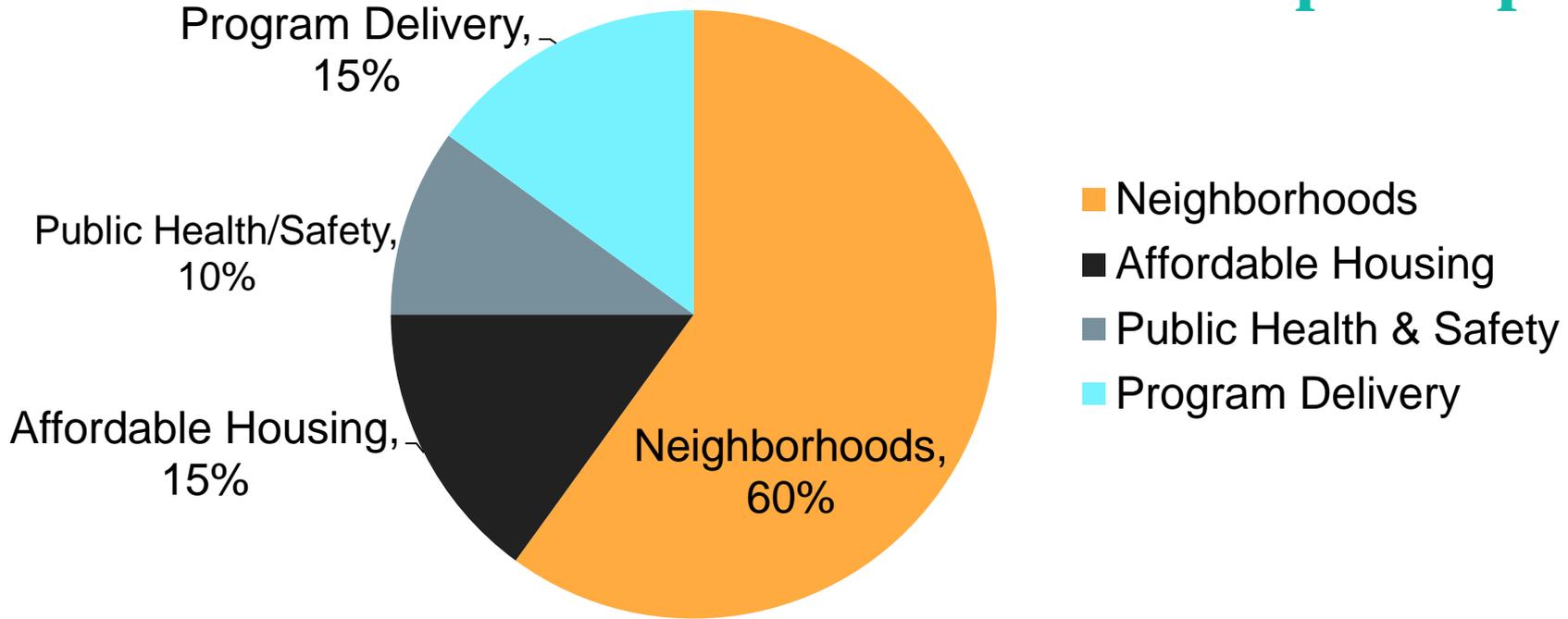
# ConnectFree Program

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**People empowered**

- Subsidizes water and wastewater extensions and connections to certain projects
  - Existing Residential (owner-occupied or rental)
  - Nonprofits that serve special needs (defined in the Resolution)
  - Subsidies are limited for each project
  - GRU's entire service area is eligible

# Funding Categories

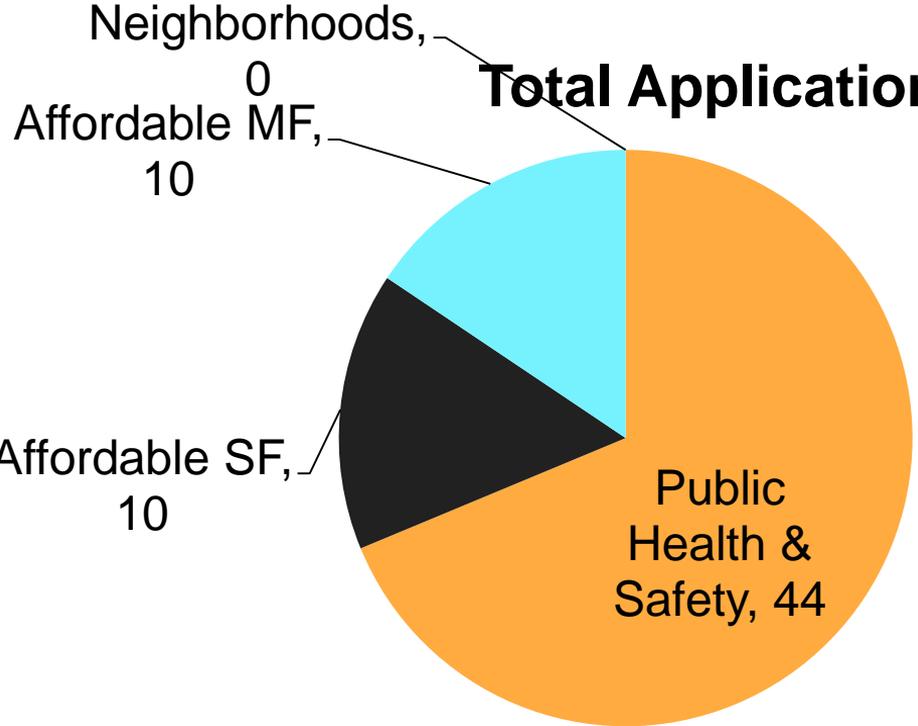
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# Applications for Connections

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**Total Applications Received 64**

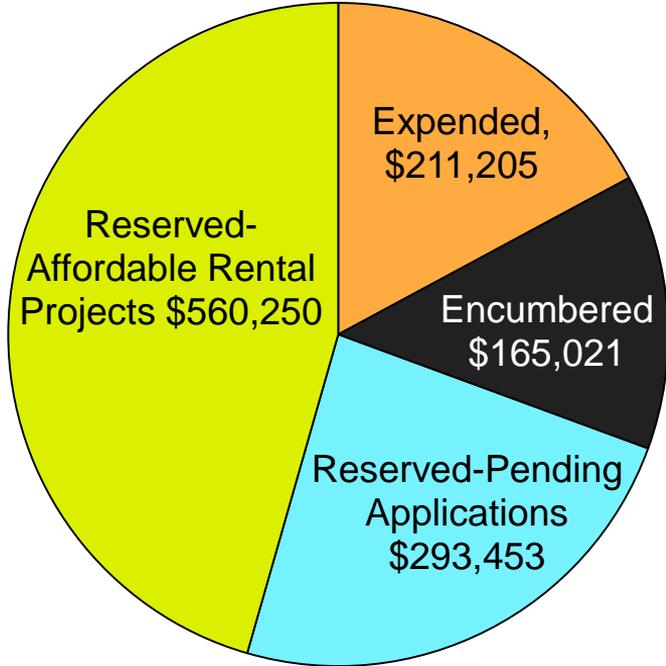


- Public Health & Safety
- Affordable Housing -SF
- Affordable Housing -MF
- Neighborhoods

# Program Budget Summary

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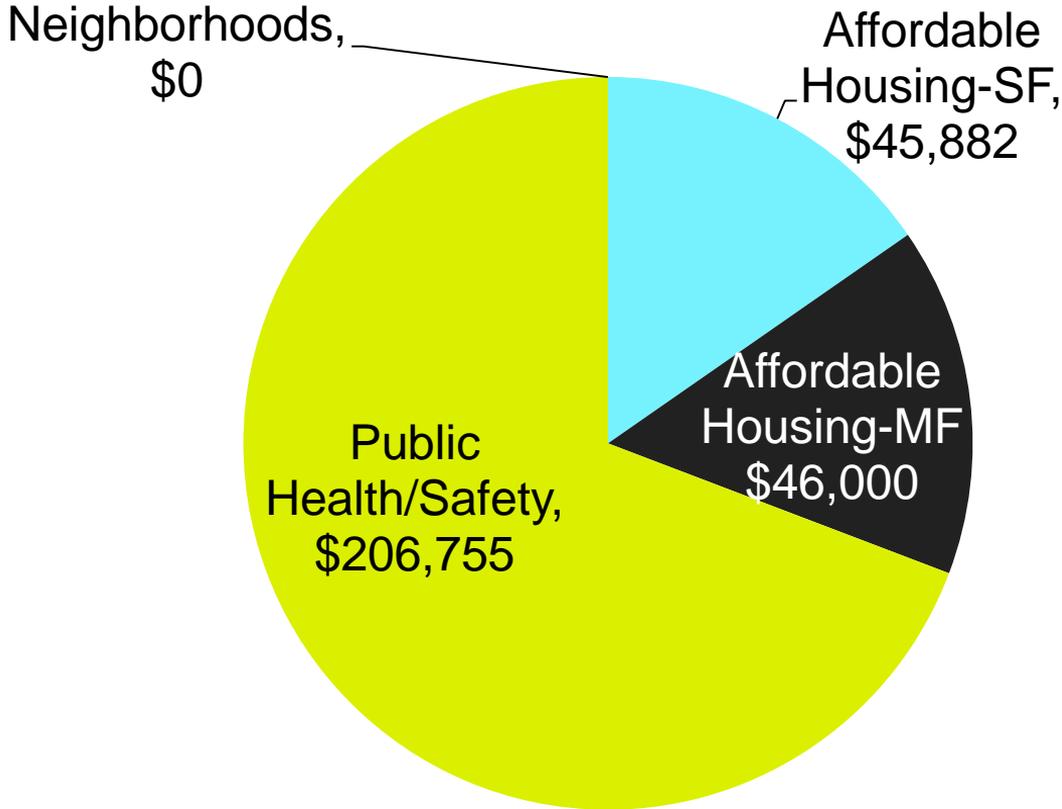
**Total Allocation \$1,229,929.74**



- Expended
- Encumbered
- Reserved-Pending Applications
- Reserved-Affordable Rental Projects

Note: Includes \$46,000 Rollover for Arbour Valley Affordable Rental Housing Project

# Funding Expense By Category



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- Affordable Housing-SF
- Affordable Housing-MF
- Public Health/Safety
- Neighborhoods

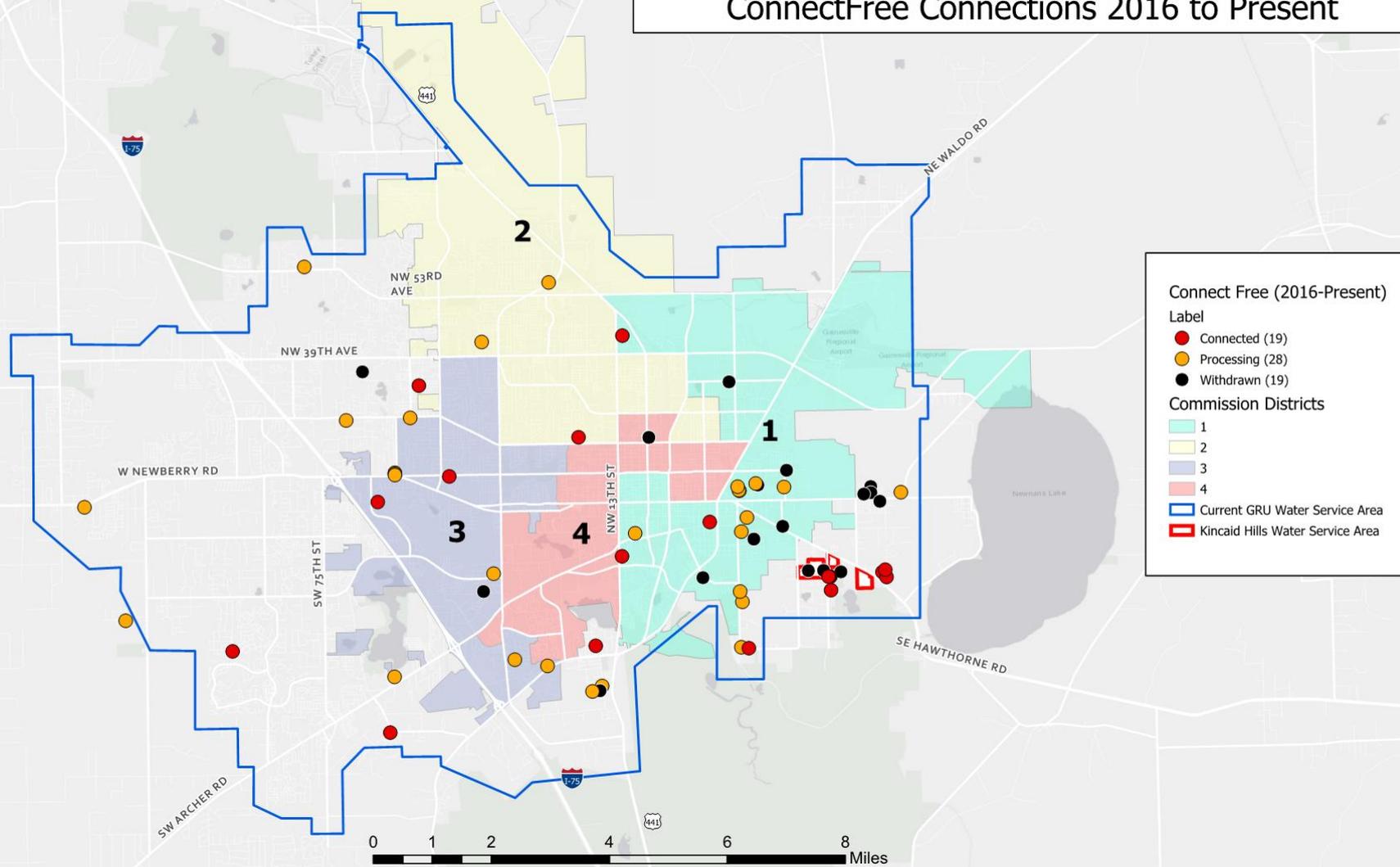
# Project Units

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ConnectFree Units					
	City		County		
	Completed	Proposed	Completed	Proposed	Total
Public, Health & Safety	6	2	13	3	24
Affordable Housing-Single Family	-	5	3	-	8
Affordable Housing-Rental Neighborhoods	64	89*	-	-	153
	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Total Units</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>96</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>185</b>

\*Tax Credit Project, Pending City Commission and State Approval

# ConnectFree Connections 2016 to Present



**Connect Free (2016-Present)**

**Label**

- Connected (19)
- Processing (28)
- Withdrawn (19)

**Commission Districts**

- 1
- 2
- 3
- 4

**Water Service Areas**

- Current GRU Water Service Area
- Kincaid Hills Water Service Area

**Public Health, Safety, Environmental  
Single Family-Existing  
Water Connection**





**Public Health, Safety, Environmental  
Single Family-Existing  
Water Connection**



**Public Health, Safety, Environmental  
Single Family-Existing  
Water Connection**



1928

**Public Health, Safety, Environmental  
Single Family-Existing  
Water Connection**

**Public Health, Safety, Environmental  
Single Family-New Construction  
Wastewater Connection  
City of Gainesville**





**Public Health, Safety, Environmental  
Single Family-New Construction  
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**Public Health, Safety, Environmental  
Single Family-New Construction  
Wastewater Connection  
City of Gainesville**



**Affordable Housing  
Single Family  
Habitat for Humanity**



**Affordable Housing  
Single Family  
Habitat for Humanity**



Affordable Housing  
Single Family  
Habitat for Humanity



**Affordable Housing  
Single Family  
Habitat for Humanity**



Affordable Housing  
Multi-Family  
Arbour Valley

1  
3  
0  
3

TOW AWAY  
24 HRS A DAY  
ZONE  
UNAUTHORIZED VEHICLES  
OR VESSELS WILL BE TOWED  
AT OWNER'S EXPENSE  
FLA. ST. STAT. 318.07  
SUPERIOR TOWING  
352-373-7374  
ROAM TOWING

*Arbours*

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||| AT TUMBLIN CREEK |||















# Proposed Revisions

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- Additional Flexibility for Program Criteria
- Combine Two Categories
  - 1) Single Units/Neighborhood Extensions and 2) Public Health, Safety, Environmental
    - ❖ Up To 60% of Funds for combined category
  - Reserve at Least 30% for Affordable Housing
  - Reserve at Least 10% for Program Delivery

## **Proposed Revisions (continued)**

- **Clarify that “new affordable residential projects” are eligible**
  - **Developers can be either non-profit or for-profit**
- **Priority for Critical Health & Safety Projects**
  - **Lack of Potable Water**
  - **Sewage seepage or discharge on to the ground**
  - **Sewage back up into the house**
- **Increase Local Government Contribution for Low Income Tax Credit Projects**
- **If conceptually approved by General Policy Committee, staff will bring back revised Resolution for City Commission approval**

# Recommendation

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- General Policy Committee Hear a Presentation
- Provide Guidance Regarding Revisions to the ConnectFree Program Resolution
- Refer the ConnectFree Program Revisions to the City Commission

**Thank You.**