

**LEGISLATIVE**

**# 120579B**



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## MEMORANDUM

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**TO:** Paul Folkers, City of Gainesville Assistant City Manager  
**FROM:** Gerry Dedenbach, AICP LEED® AP, Director of Planning & GIS Services  
**DATE:** November 5, 2012  
**RE:** C.R. Layton U.S. Army Reserve Center – October 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2012 Visioning Session

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Causseaux, Hewett, & Walpole were pleased to provide the City of Gainesville with Group Facilitation Services related to the C.R. Layton U.S. Army Reserve Center Visioning Session. Following opening comments by the Honorable Randy Wells, City Commissioner, Mr. Andrew Persons, City of Gainesville Planning staff, provided an informational PowerPoint presentation to the Visioning Session Participants.

Following the City's opening comments and presentation, Mr. Gerry Dedenbach, facilitated the group discussion of Opportunities and Constraints, Potential Partnerships, and Moving Forward. The open discussion was to gather the participants' opinions and determine possible next steps when the City formally acquires the U.S. Army Reserve Center. Visioning Session participants listed the following items during the course of discussion, in grouped order as related topics surfaced throughout the evening:

### **Opportunities**

- Non-profit Hub (Co-locating several organizations within east Gainesville)
- Non-profit Incubator (to be used as a mentoring space for start-up companies)
- Job Training/ Mentorship (Maker's Space)
- One-stop Jobless Center: Training – Technology >5:00 p.m.
  
- Agricultural / Biologic Incubator
- Food production – Urban Forrest component
- Energy Park, using human powered devices to fun facility
- Solar Panels / Energy Production should be considered during the building update
  
- Veterans' Memorial
- Veterans' Support center for counseling, job training, etc.
  
- Museum / Arts Center
- Community Garden
- Tot Lot / Playground
- A fitness center to promote health & wellness
- A dance hall for all ages on the weekends
- Banquet Hall / Flex-Space
- Artisans Kitchens
- Elder Care East

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- Alachua County Public Library Partnership
- Gainesville Police Department (GPD) Sub-station
- Homeless Center

### **Constraints**

- Modernization Cost
  - Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) upgrades such as restrooms, elevators, etc. Commercial fire separation, Heating, Ventilation, and Air Conditioning H/VAC, Plumbing/Electrical upgrades, and the planned roof
- Funding Structure – No Identified partners at this time.
- NE 8<sup>th</sup> Avenue Impacts regarding traffic, pedestrian and bicycle safety, and transit access to/from the site.

### **Potential Partnerships**

- Municipal – UF/SFC/Alachua County
- Public/Private
- Army Reserve – Use Team

### **Moving Forward**

- Phased Approach
- Fence Removal – Return to Community
- Shared Ownership, Shared Mentorship, Community Leadership
- Charrette (FCDC)

The next steps are to present this information to the City Commission to obtain their input and direction based on the citizens' discussion at the Visioning Session. We would like to provide a presentation on the City Commission's December 6<sup>th</sup> agenda.