

# City of Gainesville

*City Hall  
200 East University Avenue  
Gainesville, Florida 32601*



## **Meeting Agenda**

**June 06, 2011**

**3:00 PM**

**City Hall, Room 16**

## **Recreation, Cultural Affairs and Public Works Committee**

*Commissioner Scherwin Henry, Chair  
Commissioner Todd Chase, Member  
Commissioner Jeanna Mastrodicasa, 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****110037.****Approval of the May 9, 2011 Recreation, Cultural Affairs and Public Works Committee Meeting Minutes (B)****RECOMMENDATION**

*The Recreation, Cultural Affairs and Public Works Committee approve the May 9, 2011, minutes as submitted.*

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**DISCUSSION OF PENDING REFERRALS****090110.****Proposed Cell Tower at Albert “Ray” Massey Park (B)**

**This item involves an update to the Recreation, Cultural Affairs and Public Works Committee regarding potential placement of a Cell Tower at Albert “Ray” Massey Park.**

*Explanation: On July 24, 2003 the Recreation, Cultural Affairs and Public Works Committee heard information from representatives of cellular phone companies about the need for and placement of a cellular tower at Albert “Ray” Massey Park. A motion was made and approved to work with the cell tower representatives on gathering additional information and presenting findings to the full Commission at the January 28, 2004, City Commission meeting. This item was withdrawn and no further action was taken.*

*In April 2009, the Parks, Recreation and Cultural Affairs (PRCA) Department was approached by TowerCom, requesting consideration to place a cell tower at Albert “Ray” Massey Park. On May 21, 2009, the matter was referred to the Recreation, Cultural Affairs and Public Works Committee by the City Commission.*

*On May 20, 2009, the Public Recreation and Parks Advisory Board met and discussed the cell tower proposal. At that meeting, the advisory board approved the following motion: to support the construction of the cell tower, provided that further neighborhood notification was pursued and that the revenues from that tower go to the Department and does not supplant other funds.*

*On June 11, 2009, the Recreation, Cultural Affairs and Public Works*

*Committee heard a presentation by TowerCom representative Dave Boeff on this matter; PRCA Director Steve Phillips provided history and background. Mr. Boeff presented details of the company's need for placement of a cellular tower at Albert "Ray" Massey Park, outlining TowerCom's proposal, which included logistical, financial, photographic details, along with a draft of a proposed agreement.*

*On December 17, 2009, a neighborhood workshop was conducted to obtain feedback from area residents near the proposed cell tower location.*

*At the February 11, 2010 Committee meeting, a presentation was provided by Mr. David Boeff of TowerCom, regarding the steps TowerCom had taken to that point, including results obtained from a public workshop and modifications to the proposal subsequent to that input.*

*On March 25, 2010, the City Plan Board heard the petition to amend the PS zoning for Ray Massey Westside Park to allow a wireless communications facility as a use permitted by special use permit. This was approved subject to staff conditions.*

*On June 6, 2010 during citizen comments, Julia Reiskind addressed the City Commission regarding the proposed plan to establish a cell tower at Ray Massey Westside Park and some of the issues related to the placement. Following the discussion of the Cell Towers, the City Commission requested staff to provide a memo to the Mayor and Commission discussing the feasibility and desirability of preparing a Cell Tower Master Plan. Based on current regulations developed in 2005 and the lack of demand for additional cell towers within the City, it was felt there was little need for a detailed master plan.*

*In addition, staff heard suggestions from residents that alternative technologies be explored that might be able to address the gap in cell phone coverage without the need for a cell tower. Since that time, City staff from Legal, Planning, GRU and PRCA met to discuss the issues and concerns regarding the cell tower. Based on those meetings and additional input received, staff believes it is appropriate to move this issue back to the Committee for further review. Furthermore, GRU staff is prepared to provide a brief presentation and address questions related to the potential use of alternative technologies.*

**Fiscal Note:** *There is no fiscal impact to the City of Gainesville at this time; however, construction of a cell tower at the park would provide revenue opportunities for PRCA that have been estimated to be at least \$100,000. If TowerCom's project receives approval, City staff will pursue negotiating with them for one-time capital funds to assist with City costs incurred by construction, and also for recurring revenues that may be derived from TowerCom's continuing use of City property.*

**RECOMMENDATION**

*The Recreation, Cultural Affairs and Public Works Committee: 1) hear an update on options related to a proposed cell tower at Albert "Ray" Massey Park; and 2) provide staff with direction on this proposal.*

**Legislative History**

5/21/09	City Commission	Referred	Recreation, Cultural Affairs and Public Works Committee
2/11/10	Recreation, Cultural Affairs and Public Works Committee	Approved, as shown above -	See Motion(s)
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**MEMBER COMMENT****CITIZEN COMMENT****NEXT MEETING DATE - July 11, 2011 @ 1:00 PM****ADJOURNMENT**