

# City of Gainesville

City Hall  
200 East University Avenue  
Gainesville, Florida 32601



## Meeting Agenda - Final

July 22, 2021

1:00 PM

Roberta Lisle Kline Conference Room

### General Policy Committee

*Mayor Lauren Poe (At Large)*  
*Commissioner Reina Saco (At Large, Seat A)*  
*Mayor-Commissioner Pro Tem Gail Johnson (At Large, Seat B)*  
*Commissioner Desmon Duncan-Walker (District 1)*  
*Commissioner Harvey Ward (District 2)*  
*Commissioner David Arreola (District 3)*  
*Commissioner Adrian Hayes-Santos (District 4)*

*If you have a disability and need an accommodation in order to participate in this meeting, please contact the Office of Equal Opportunity at (352)334-5051 at least two business days in advance. TTY (Text Telephone Telecommunication Device) users please call 711 (Florida Relay Service). For Speech to Speech (STS) relay, please call 1-877-955-5334. For STS Spanish relay, please call 1-877-955-8773. For STS French Creole relay, please call 1-877-955-8707.*

**CALL TO ORDER****ROLL CALL****ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA****APPROVAL OF MINUTES**[210097.](#)**Approval of Minutes from the June 10, 2021 General Policy Committee Meeting (B)****RECOMMENDATION**

*The General Policy Committee approve the minutes of June 10, 2021.*

[210097\\_June 10, 2021 Minutes\\_20210722.pdf](#)

**DISCUSSION OF PENDING REFERRALS**[201093.](#)**Annexation Policy (B)**

This is a request for the General Policy Committee to hear a presentation from staff on past annexation efforts and discuss components of an annexation policy.

*Explanation: In 2002, the City Commission adopted an annexation policy to facilitate the annexation of areas seeking to come into the city, regardless of size, and to review market research, voting patterns and other information to define areas that have the highest likelihood of annexation. Since that time voluntary annexations have generally been more successful than referendum annexations. Since 1985, referendum annexations have been successful about 40% of the time and voluntary annexations have had a 100% success rate.*

*Past experience has indicated that issue-specific annexation referendums are most likely to pass. Issues that have impacted the effectiveness of annexations over time have been related to access to public transportation, response times of critical services such as fire rescue, identification with urban living and the consolidation of homeowners associations under one governing body.*

*Annexation referendums require significant City resources. Staff has conducted a resource allocation analysis of past referendum efforts, demonstrating that additional resources would be needed to pursue future annexations by referendum. Surveys have been proposed as a less*

*expensive option to determine interest in annexation and an increment for an Annexation Coordinator has been requested in recent years.*

*As a result of lessons learned from efforts of past years, the City's annexation policy has remained focused on facilitating voluntary annexations and supporting referendums that have a high likelihood of success. Staff has worked with private property owners on voluntary annexations, particularly in the cases where the property owner or developer will see benefits from annexing into the City either through reduced fees or potentially more desirable land development regulations. Interest in annexation has fluctuated with changes in local fees and taxes as well as the economy as a whole.*

*The establishment of goals for an annexation policy should be discussed to ensure that the end result reflects the most recently established priorities of the City Commission. Goals will need to consider prerogatives and directives of all departments involved. Future annexation policies should be considered in terms of how they will integrate with each other to create a uniform annexation policy and strategy that can be implemented.*

**RECOMMENDATION**

*The General Policy Committee 1) receive a presentation from staff and 2) discuss and take action deemed appropriate.*

**Legislative History**

6/10/21      General Policy      Withdrawn  
                    Committee

[201093 Annexation Policy Presentation 20210610.pdf](#)

**210163.**

**Review of City's Election Districts (NB)**

*Explanation: Section 2.02 of the Charter Laws of the City of Gainesville requires the City Commission to apportion the City into four consecutively numbered districts and to adjust the boundary lines of the districts by subsequently enacted ordinances whenever, in its judgement, the districts are not ratably or equally apportioned in accordance with the State Constitution and the Constitution of the United States, but not less frequently than within the second year following each decennial census. The City Commission previously redistricted the City by adoption of an ordinance in December 2012 using data from the 2010 Census.*

*For the previous four City redistrictings (1986, 1991, 2001, and 2012), the City contracted with a University of Florida expert in the field of redistricting and apportionment to analyze the data and provide potential redistricting options and a recommended option. The consultant's work and recommendations were then reviewed by a City Commission-appointed Citizen Election District Review Committee, which made a recommendation to the City Commission for ultimate adoption.*

*The City anticipates receiving the results of the 2020 Census in September or October 2021, and should adopt a redistricting ordinance using that data by the end of 2022. Consistent with the process used in previous redistrictings, it is recommended that the City partner with the University of Florida by retaining the services of an expert consultant, as well as appointing a Citizen Election District Review Committee to review and recommend any changes in the size and areas of the four election districts. Staff has confirmed the University of Florida Bureau of Economic and Business Research (U.F. BEBR) is available to perform the redistricting analysis. Dr. Michael McDonald and Dr. Daniel Smith, both Political Science Professors and redistricting experts at the University of Florida and acting under U.F. BEBR, are available to analyze the 2020 Census data and provide a City redistricting report and recommendation to a Citizen Election District Review Committee and the City Commission. The Citizen Election District Review Committee has previously consisted of seven members with the Mayor and each City Commissioner appointing one City resident to the Committee.*

*The following proposed timeline would allow the City to accomplish redistricting by December 2022:*

*July/August 2021: The City Commission authorizes the retention of a redistricting consultant and the creation of a Citizen Election District Review Committee.*

*August 2021-September 2022: U.F. BEBR analyzes 2020 Census data (anticipated to be available in Sept. - Oct. 2021) and Supervisor of Elections updated precincts (anticipated to be available late spring / early summer 2022), and completes a redistricting report.*

*APRIL 2022: City Commission appoints members to the Citizen Election District Review Committee.*

*MAY 2022-SEPTEMBER 2022: Citizen Election District Review Committee meets to review consultant's work and submits a final report to the City Commission.*

*SEPTEMBER 2022: City Commission meets to receive reports and recommendations from both U.F. BEBR and the Citizen Election District Review Committee, and authorizes the drafting of a redistricting ordinance.*

*NOVEMBER 2022: First and second readings of redistricting ordinance before the City Commission.*

**RECOMMENDATION**

*The City Commission: 1) approve the proposed redistricting timeline; 2) authorize the City Attorney's Office to contract with U.F. BEBR to analyze the 2020 census data and recommend a redistricting plan; and 3) authorize the creation and selection of a Citizen Election District Review Committee to review the redistricting plan and*

*submit reports and recommendations to the City Commission.*

[210180.](#)

**Options for Enhanced Audit & Finance Committee Structure (B)**

*Explanation: As a general rule, the minimum number of members for an effective audit committee is three. This ensures that a sufficient range of skills and experience is available to review complex and decentralized services and activities and related risks. The Audit Committee, through oversight of the Internal Audit function, ensures the City's governance, operational risk management, and internal control processes are suitably designed and working as intended to achieve strategic goals and objectives.*

*A Finance Committee or Financial Review provides oversight and guidance on financial matters such as the operating budget, review of financial reporting documents, debt management, investments, contracts, capital improvement programs, long-term financing, real property or other items requiring fiscal policy direction and input.*

*The City Auditor proposes to: 1) Add a third person, a subject matter expert, to the Audit Committee to strengthen governance of organizational risks, management of fraud risk, City's internal control environment, and stewardship of the City's resources. The external subject matter expert would also improve opportunity to meet quorum for Committee meetings. 2) Consider two options (A, B) to approach focused governance of internal audit activities and reports, and GG and GRU finance, budget and accounting reporting.*

**RECOMMENDATION**

*The City Commission discuss the two options for enhanced Audit & Finance Committee structures, provide direction to staff and take action as appropriate.*

[210180\\_Options for Enhanced Audit & Finance Committee Structure\\_20210722](#)

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

**MEMBER COMMENT**

**NEXT MEETING DATE**

**August 12, 2021**

**ADJOURNMENT**