

Wild Spaces / Public Places and Infrastructure Surtax

Frequently Asked Questions

1. Who makes up the Citizen's Oversight Board?
 - a. County Commission Appointees:
 - i. BJ Bukata;
 - ii. Melissa Hill;
 - iii. Dorothy Smiljanich (alternate);
 - b. Gainesville City Commission Appointees:
 - i. Kaitlyn Dickinson;
 - ii. David Ruiz – Chair;
 - iii. Benjamin Fox (alternate);
 - c. Other Incorporated Cities (Not Gainesville):
 - i. Thomas Hewlett – Vice Chair; and,
 - ii. Megan Forbes (alternate).
2. Who conducts the independent audit?

The Citizen's Oversight Board audits the fund annually. The Board also has the authority to order an independent audit if, in their opinion, funds were misappropriated. Additionally, the City of Gainesville's external auditor (independent) audits the fund on an annual basis.
3. What would be the City of Gainesville's share of the infrastructure surtax, if approved by voters?

The City would receive:

 - a. \$17.4 Million dollars annually (projections)
 - i. \$8.7 Million dollars annually for Wild Spaces / Public Places;
 - ii. \$8.7 Million dollars annually for Infrastructure Projects (road, fire stations, etc.);
 - iii. \$3.0 Million dollars over the 10 year life of the project for joint Wild Spaces / Public Places projects with Alachua County;
 - iv. \$3.0 Million dollars over the 10 year life of the project for joint Infrastructure Projects with Alachua County;
4. When is the referendum?

Tuesday, November 8, 2022
5. Which projects are currently included in the city's proposed list to the City Commission?

The list has not been approved and is still be developed at community workshops. For existing City of Gainesville projects, please reach out to the Communications Office for more information.
6. Which types of projects would be eligible for funding by the surtax?
 - a. Parks and recreation projects such as existing Wild Spaces / Public Places Program;
 - b. Facility infrastructure programs such as the City of Gainesville's Fire Department Master Plan Implementation and maintenance of critical infrastructure;
 - c. Roadway repairs and paving and safety programs:
 - i. City's Pavement Management Program;
 - ii. Vision Zero roadway safety program.
7. Which types of projects would not be eligible?
 - a. Construction of new roads;
 - b. Transit projects;