# Sweetwater Branch/Paynes Prairie Sheetflow Restoration Project 100% Plans

Water/Wastewater Systems
Gainesville Regional Utilities

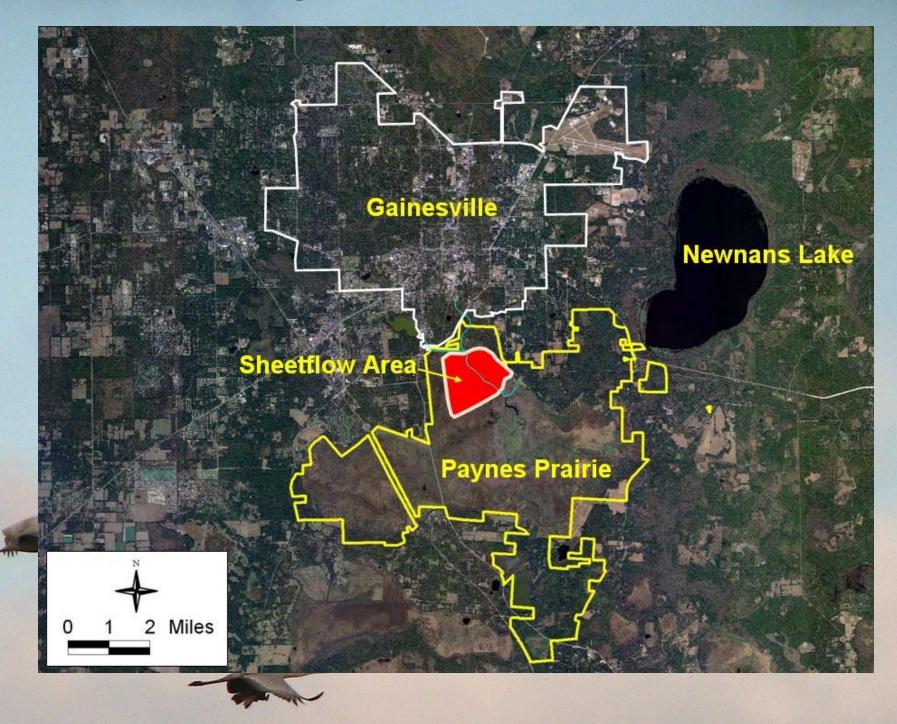


July 19,2012

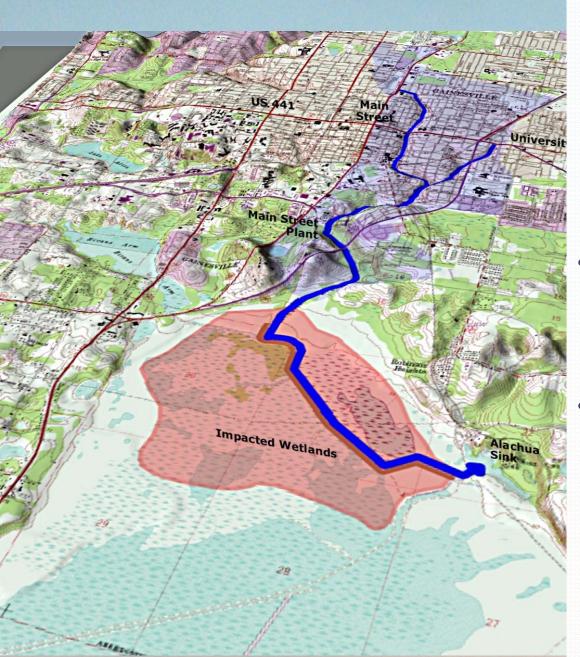




### **Project Location**



#### Historical Impacts to System



- 1930s:Sweetwater Branch channeled directly to Alachua Sink
  - 1,300 acres of wetlands impacted.
  - Direct flow path from Gainesville to Alachua Sink
- 1930s: Portion of Prairie Creek flow diverted away from Paynes Prairie
- 1800s to present: Urbanization of Gainesville
  - Stormwater runoff
  - Trash & sediment
  - WW Effluent
  - Septic Tanks

#### **Project Benefits**

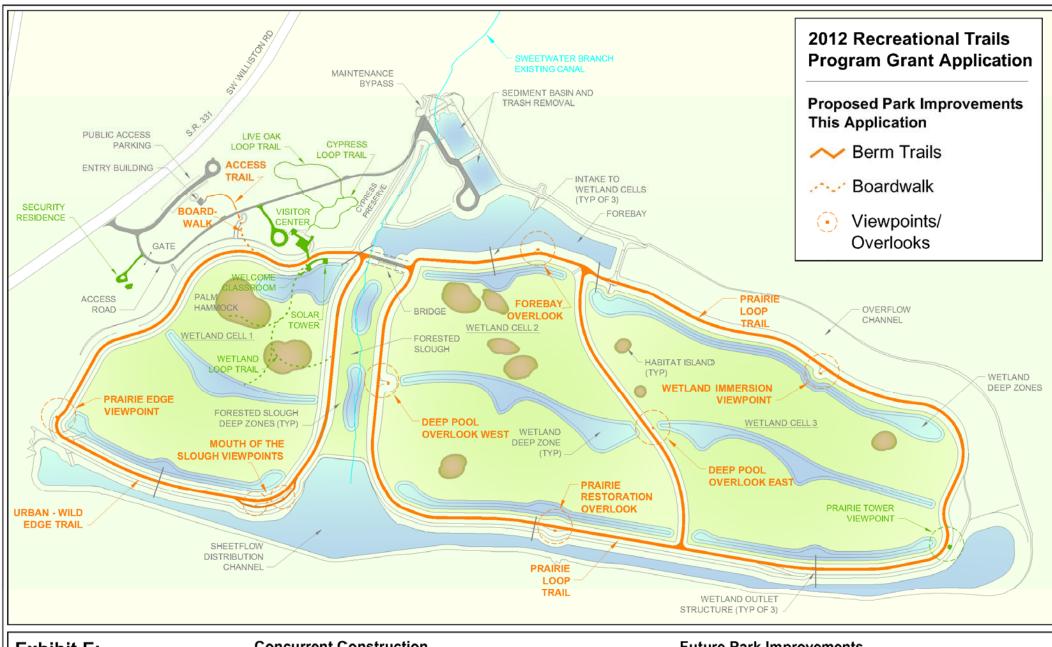
- Improve Water Quality in Alachua Sink
  - Meet TMDL
- 2. Restore 1,300 ac natural wetlands
  - Rehydrate
  - Remove Trash & Sediment
- 3. Protect Floridan Aquifer
- Help Restore flow balance to Paynes Prairie
- 5. Wildlife habitat & public park
  - Additional conservation land added to park



#### Paynes Prairie Sheetflow History

- April 9, 2007 Conceptual Project Plan presented
- February 25, 2008 Design Consultant Selected
- February 5, 2009 Land Exchange and MOU with State Approved
- June 17, 2010 30% Plans Presented
- January 20, 2011 Construction Manager at Risk Selected and NNC Issues Presented
- October 4, 2011 60% Plans Presented







#### **Concurrent Construction**





#### **Future Park Improvements**





#### **Construction Estimate**

Base Project	
Forebay & Sediment Basin	\$ 3,777,962
Access Road	\$ 1,630,354
Enhancement Wetland	\$ 9,041,060
Channel Improvements	\$ 3,586,549
Sweetwater Canal Infill	\$ 1,122,696
Public Access	
Entry Complex	\$ 1,204,614
Trails & Boardwalk	\$ 898,293
Welcome Classroom & Shade Structures	\$ 479,203
Security Residence	\$ 345,239
Total	\$ 22,085,970
Prairie Tower Alternate	\$ 404,000



#### Paynes Prairie Sheetflow Project Partners

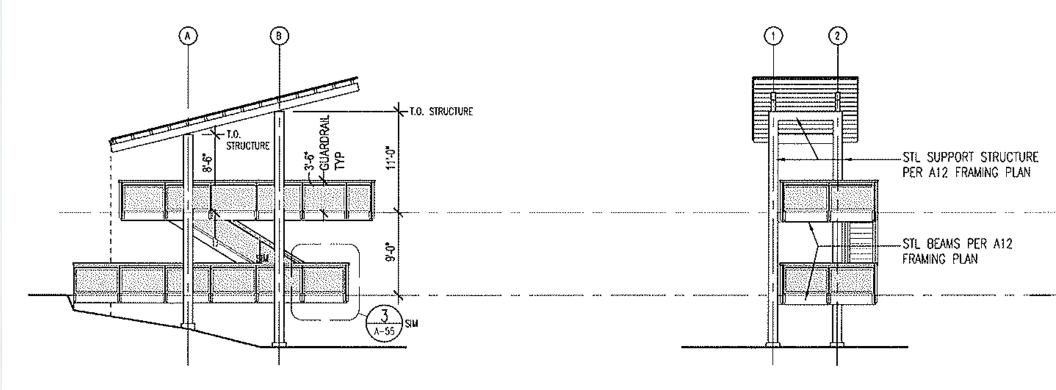
- FDEP
- St. Johns River Water Management District
- Florida Department of Transportation
- US EPA
- Alachua County
- Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission





#### **Construction Alternate**

#### • Prairie Tower



9 PRAIRIE TOWER - WEST ELEVATION

SCALE: 1/8" = 1'-0"

PRAIRIE TOWER - SOUTH ELEVATION

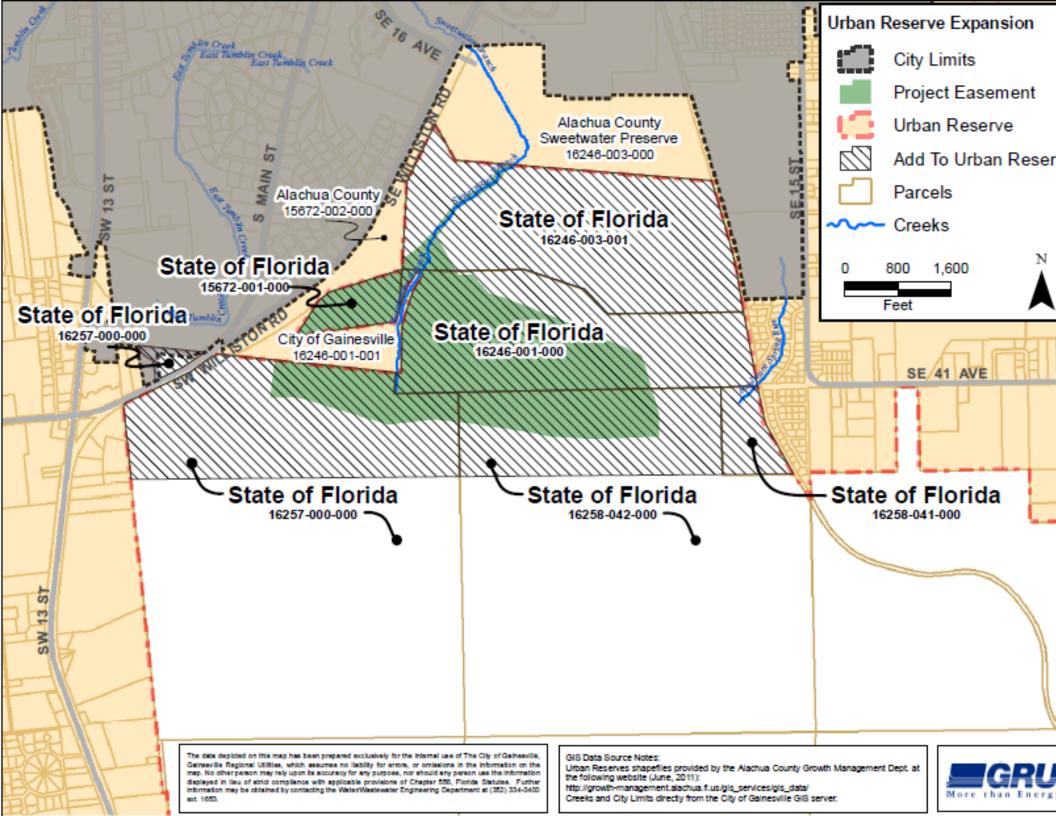
SCALE: 1/8" = 1'-0"



#### Future Public Use Improvements

- Solar Tower
- Visitor Center





#### Project Issues

- Cultural Resource Mitigation
- Soil Contaminants
- Numeric Nutrient Criteria
- Public Use Management





#### **Cultural Resource Mitigation**



 Reevaluation found site not eligible for inclusion on the National Register of Historic Places.

#### Soil Use and Disposal Plan



- Approved by FDEP Waste Cleanup Section
   & Parks & Recreation
- US EPA is reviewing the Plan currently



#### **Numeric Nutrient Criteria**

- EPA NNC Rule takes effect August 31, 2013
- FDEP has Proposed its own NNC Rule
- Alternatives to Comply
  - Pipeline \$8 million + \$175k/year
  - Reclassification and Site Specific Alternative
     Criteria EPA Rule
  - Stressor Identification Study DEP Rule



#### Numeric Nutrient Criteria (cont'd)



- Biological studies are underway
- Study Plan approved by FDEP and reviewed by EPA
- DEP is providing assistance
- Design includes provisions for future pipeline if required

#### Public Use Management

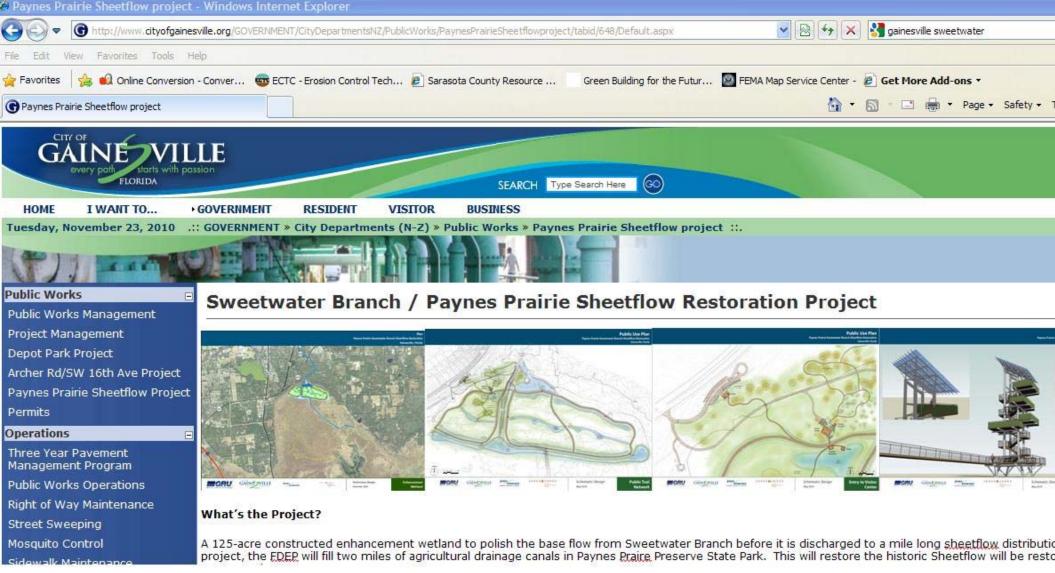
City Commission will discuss including an increment in the Parks and Recreation budget during budget hearings.



#### Next Steps

- City Commission approval of 100% Plans
- Negotiate & Execute Construction Contract
- Public Meeting Scheduled July 24, 2012
- Start Construction August 2012
- Estimated Construction Completion Summer 2014





project, the FDEP will fill two miles of agricultural drainage canals in Paynes Praire Preserve State Park. This will restore the historic Sheetflow will be restored.



## www.cityofgainesville.org/pps



## Neighborhood Meeting

Tuesday July 24th, 2012

The Thomas Center

6:00 pm





### Recommendation

Approve 100 % plans



# Questions?

