

State Funding Requests

DRAFT

STATE FUNDING REQUESTS

Contact:

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TITLE: Gainesville Fire Rescue: Special Operations Ambulance Request

ABOUT:

The City of Gainesville Fire Rescue Department (GFR) is an accredited all-hazards fire department that directly serves a population of 125,600 people with the potential population well exceeding 500,000 people. Through mutual aid agreements for specialized tactical paramedical resources to support two local Special Weapons and Tactics (SWAT) Teams GFR responds to calls for service in an area covering up to 17 North Florida counties. In 2015 GFR responded to 19,073 calls for service and 24,271 total unit responses. 79% of these calls were for medical emergencies. This demand for service places a huge demand on Alachua County Fire Rescue (ACFR) as the sole Advanced Life Support (ALS) transport provider for the City of Gainesville. The demand has caused ACFR to go into “No Recue Available” status 64 times over the last 20 months as well as an increase in delayed responses related to the shortage of available units. In this same time frame there have been 28 SWAT call-outs which included a tactical medic component.

IMPACTS:

This trend shows that ACFR ambulances are in short supply and the increased demand has prevented their being available to stage on high risk incidents types where there is “no confirmed patient” such as man hunts for armed suspects, hostage situations, and barricaded subjects. There have been a number of incidents where there were active engagements that law enforcement and our SWAT medics were denied an ambulance for stand-by where the situation resulted in the discharge of one or more weapons. The Officer involved shooting on I-75 in July 2015 spurred more support for a dedicated transport capable vehicle due to ACFR cancelling the standby ambulance. Most recently, there was a robbery/hostage situation that escalated into a man hunt in a wooded area for known armed suspects near Santa Fe High school that prompted the activation of the SWAT Medics. Because of the volatile circumstances GFR’s medics requested an ambulance be dedicated to the incident and again, due to limited resources no ambulance was available to stand-by.

FUNDING NEEDS:

The need for the Special Operations Ambulance has been identified by GFR, ACSO, and GPD; however there are no available funds to purchase the ambulance. The estimated total cost for an equipped Type I Ambulance is \$210,000. This expense include the ambulance and all medical supplies to meet the any and all requirements set forth in State of Florida Chapter 401, Florida Statutes, and Chapter 64J-1 Florida Administrative Code as well as Federal requirements set under KKK-A-1822 and NFPA 1917: Standard for Automotive Ambulance.

CURRENT STATUS:

Currently the SWAT Medics have **no** capability to transport a wounded victim, law enforcement officer, or suspect to the hospital. The need and deployment options to provide for special ambulance response concludes that it is in the best interest of our law enforcement and the public to have a special operations ambulance that is staged slightly away from the incident---and when needed could swiftly evacuate a wounded or injured person to definitive medical care.

Sweetwater Branch Creek Improvements

City of Gainesville, Florida

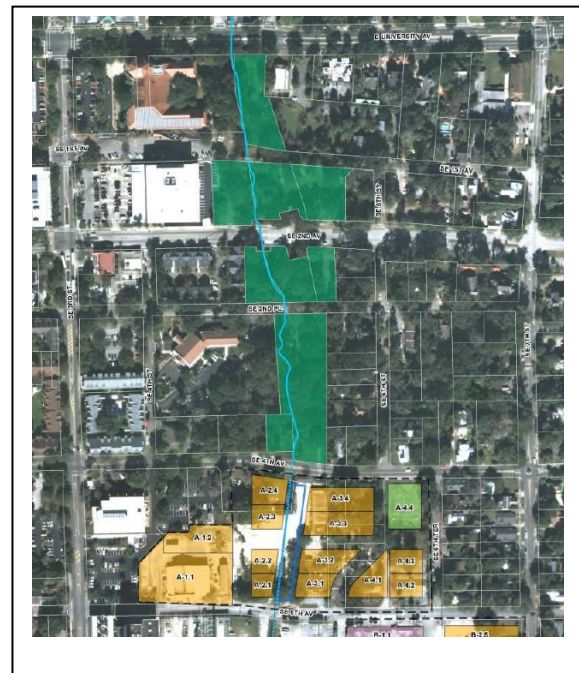


ABOUT: The Sweetwater Branch Creek corridor is a critical pedestrian and bicyclist corridor through the heart of Downtown Gainesville, Florida. It connects the Downtown Gainesville business district, large residential neighborhoods, and Main Headquarters Library with the Power District Redevelopment Area project (an up & coming 13-acre thriving revitalized neighborhood and economic hub) and the newly opened 32-acre Depot Park. The Sweetwater Branch Creek is a typical urban stream that “flashes” with flooding & high velocities causing heavy erosion along the corridor from E. University Avenue to SE 4th Avenue. It’s flood zone in the Power District Redevelopment Area limits the economic growth potential in this central critical urban redevelopment area. **The project implements urban stream flood & erosion infrastructure improvements coupled with primary downtown urban stream corridor usability upgrades.**

IMPACTS: The project will reduce/eliminate flooding, eliminate erosion and high velocities, improve water quality, and remove Power District redevelopment land from 100-year floodplain, while creating a safe and accessible pedestrian & bike corridor between vital Downtown Areas and the Power District Redevelopment Area & Depot Park. Increased safety, pedestrian & bike usability, and beautification enhancements for an improved public park corridor between major existing & future economic hubs, neighborhoods, and Depot Park will also be incorporated in the design and construction.

FUNDING NEEDS: \$3.1 million. The project can be implemented in the following phases: Sweetwater Branch Creek “Daylighting” project within the Power District Redevelopment Area design and construction (\$1.9 M) and upstream corridor enhancements design and construction (\$1.2M).

CURRENT STATUS: The hydraulics & hydrology Sweetwater Branch Creek basin study and modeling effort is underway. This will provide the foundation for design of the key components of the fundamental improvements, the Daylighting of the Sweetwater Branch Creek within the Power District Redevelopment area and the stabilization of the Sweetwater Branch Creek between E. University Ave. and SE 4th Avenue. This effort will be completed and available in the beginning of October 2016.



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TITLE: SW 62nd Blvd Connector

ABOUT: The SW 62nd Blvd is a critical roadway project that will facilitate the movement of people and goods through the Gainesville Metropolitan Area, enhancing access to major employment centers, and alleviating congestion on the Federal Highway System (FHS). The project implements a new corridor with accommodation for multimodal facilities, enhancing safety and connectivity.

IMPACTS: The project will serve as a reliever to the I-75 corridor between the interchanges of SR24/Archer Road and SR26/Newberry Road, reducing local traffic along the interstate, and aligning with federal and state objectives for enhanced capacity and mobility of long-distance freight and passengers resulting in decreased congestion, improved safety, and enhanced economic benefits for the region.

FUNDING NEEDS: The total cost of the project as a 2 lane corridor is estimated at approximately \$17 million. The City has a total of \$1.2 million in local match, not inclusive of other private contributions that enabled the completion of a segment of the project in 2015/2016. Approximately \$5 million is needed for right-of-way acquisition and \$10 million for construction of the project.

CURRENT STATUS: The project is partially funded for design with expected completion of preliminary design by mid-2017. The City submitted grant applications under the FDOT's County Incentive Grant Program (CIGP) and the Transportation Regional Incentive Program (TRIP) in 2016. The NEPA process is advancing, with expected FONSI by 2017.

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Contact Information

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TITLE: Body Camera Program

According to a Mesa (Arizona) pilot program, officers received 40% fewer complaints with cameras and had 75% fewer use of force complaints with cameras. An effort by the Gainesville Police Department's effort to be transparent to the community and more efficient the department will utilize body worn cameras. The cameras will also illicit community trust and improve outcomes in use of force and citizen complaints. This effort will mirror the President's Task Force on 21st Century Policing executive summary under pillar three. The Gainesville Police Department continues to be an innovator and leader in community policing. On October 6, 2016, Attorney General Loretta Lynch awarded an inaugural award for innovations in community policing to Sergeant Audrey Mazzuca. "Through Sgt. Mazzuca's leadership, the kids developed trusting relationships with law enforcement resulting in a 79 percent decline in on-campus arrests in 2015.

Program Accomplishments:

Gainesville Police Department was the recipient of the Attorney General's Community Policing Award for the HEROES Program.

Request for State Assistance:

In order to implement our body camera program, we are requesting federal assistance in the amount of \$629,000.

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CONTACT INFORMATION

Name: John Alexander

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TITLE: Brave Overt Leaders of Distinction (BOLD)

Brave Overt Leaders of Distinction (BOLD) is a re-entry program for males between the ages of 18-24.

Program Accomplishments:

The program offers young men the opportunity to receive their GED or high school diploma, vocational training, residence assistance, and employment preparation with placement. The program works in collaboration with multiple community partners to allow young men with criminal records or adverse backgrounds, the opportunity to achieve goals and receive services to become law abiding, tax paying citizens in the community.

Request for State Assistance:

\$200,000 to provide assistance in vocational training, job opportunities and placement.

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Contact Information

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TITLE: Domestic Violence

The majority of domestic violence cases in this community are committed by men. A new grassroots effort championed by Gainesville Police Department's (GPD) Rebuilding Coordinator targets men involved in speaking out against intimate partner violence.

Program Accomplishments:

- A community Rally was held December 7 utilizing social media as a vehicle for advertising the event.
- GPD Domestic Violence detectives and other agencies have formed a High Risk Team response to Domestic Violence. The purpose of this team is to identify the most dangerous cases of domestic violence and implement interventions to prevent cases from escalating to lethal levels. The team strives to interrupt this pattern of escalation by focusing equally on victim safety and offender accountability utilizing a three-pronged approach: Early identification of high risk offenders through risk assessment; an individualized multidisciplinary response to high risk cases; and coordinated monitoring and containment of offenders.
- GPD is also examining ways to address victims of sexual assault.
- With the continued assistance of the Office on Violence Against Women, the Gainesville Police Department will continue to expand these outreach efforts to address the effects of domestic and intimate partner violence in our community and increase awareness about prevention and support.

Partnerships

- Alachua County Office of Victim Services Rape Crisis Center to launch a website for anonymous reports of sexual assault. The site provides information about intimate partner violence, victim rights and free resources available in the community. The University of Florida will work with GPD to develop videos aimed at sexual assault prevention that will aired as public service announcements.

Request for State Assistance:

In order to complete our domestic violence videos for public service announcements, we are requesting federal assistance in the amount of \$50,000.

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Contact Information

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TITLE: Mental Health and Public Education for Violence Prevention

The Gainesville Police Department is coordinating efforts between Meridian Behavioral Health Services, CDS Family and Behavioral Health Services, Inc., Alachua County Schools, the Court System (Eighth Judicial Circuit, FL) and Juvenile Justice Providers to develop a system of care (SOC) for youth.

Program Accomplishments:

The overall objective of the SOC will be to assess behavioral issues and collaboratively intervene with the student and family before these issues become arrestable offenses. Support services will include referrals for individual and family counseling, psychiatric referral, diversion to community conferencing, teen court, and restorative justice programs, mentoring, testing, and assessment.

Request for State Assistance:

Funding in the amount of \$50,000 is requested to support the development of the SOC to provide training to faculty, counselors and law enforcement officers for the purpose of improving communication with youth and families in crisis and more fully understanding the ramifications of dealing with children with special needs (autism, ADHD, substance abuse, intellectual and psychiatric deficiencies).

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TITLE: Reichert House Youth Program

Reichert House Youth Program:

The Reichert House Youth Academy was established in 1987, as a result of a growing number of at risk young black males between the ages of 12 through 18 (4th to 12 grade), predominately from lower income, single family households creating crime problems and other socially unacceptable behaviors within Gainesville communities. Candidates are referred by the courts, States Attorney's Office, police officers, schools, public housing officials, Department of Juvenile Justice, and parents.

Program Accomplishments:

Reichert House graduates have achieved success in both their personal life and post academic endeavors as well as achieving their occupational goals. Graduates have been successful in the college, military, law enforcement, Fire Department, law school and medical school. The 2011, 2012 graduation rates for seniors was 100%.

Request for State Assistance:

The federal request for this project is estimated at \$250,000 to continue expansion services to the STEM Lab and apprentice programs.

Current Program Status:

The program has grown from very humble beginnings to encompass a permanent educational complex including a main building containing classrooms, library, fully supported computer room, administration offices, board room, complete kitchen and multi-purpose room. A high school wing has been added containing classrooms and administrative offices as well as a fully supported computer lab. A functioning music/video production studio is available for participants to become involved in the many processes and jobs available in media operations. Staffed with an executive director, operations manager, 5 intervention officers, police officer, 3 state certified teachers, and an academic coordinator Reichert's Vision has continued to support and grow the facilities to meet the needs of at risk young men throughout the Gainesville and surrounding communities.

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TITLE: Police-Youth Dialogues

As a response to RED (Racial and Ethnic Disparities), formerly known as DMC (Disproportionate Minority Contact), the Gainesville Police Department began holding monthly Police-Youth Dialogues in April of 2014. These dialogs bring twelve Officers and twelve youths between the ages of fourteen and twenty-three together in order to promote trust and understanding between the two groups.

Program Accomplishments:

Other goals include fostering relationships in order to positively affect future interactions, helping the youth develop a new understanding of Police Officers and the Law, and enhancing the Officers' ability to de-escalate complex interactions with the youth.

Officers are provided information surrounding RED/DMC and youth development. They discuss youth needs that drive their behavior. Communication techniques along with de-escalation techniques are also discussed. When the two groups come together, ice breakers are used to discover commonalities. Open dialogues are used to discuss stereotypes and past experiences both positive and negative. Reverse role play exercises are also utilized. Finally, the Officers and youth pair up and share dinner where more intimate discussions take place.

Request for State Assistance:

Funding needs associated with this program include costs to pay the facilitator from the River Phoenix Center for Peacebuilding (\$150 per session); along with advertising costs to promote the program to the community (radio/television advertisement costs \$5,000).