

# Energy and Business Services

Item #180591

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Presented by

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Residential Efficiency Program Coordinator 3

# Energy & Business Services

Staff dedicated to working with both residential and commercial customers in analyzing their energy consumption and helping them strike a balance between utility use, cost, comfort, & lifestyle through:

- Education Programs
- Demand Side Management (DSM) Programs\*
- Cooperative Projects
- Energy Surveys

\*Most of GRU's rebate-related DSM programs were suspended October of 2013 as our department shifted its focus to engaging and educating customers on the benefits and return on investment that saving energy and water brings.

Low-income Energy Efficiency Program - Plus

**LEEP<sup>PLUS</sup>**

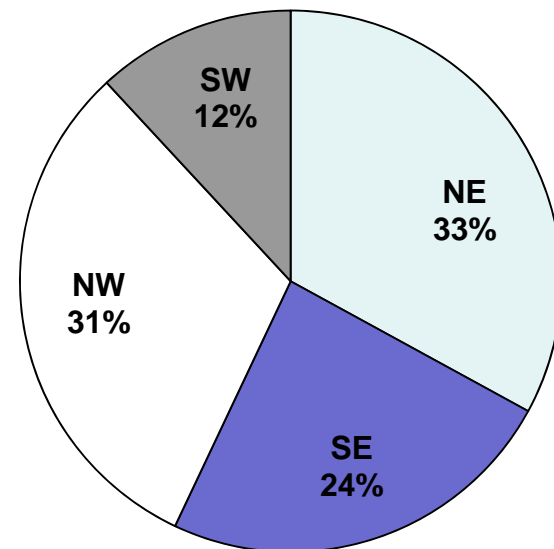
# LEEP<sup>plus</sup>

- Assist low-income customers with free home improvements in an effort to increase energy efficiency, lower their utility bills, improve comfort and manage energy use
- GRU residential electric customers with at least one year of service at current location
- Homes built in or prior to 1997 or mobile homes
- Own and live in the home
- Meet current HUD Low-income Guidelines

# LEEP<sup>plus</sup>

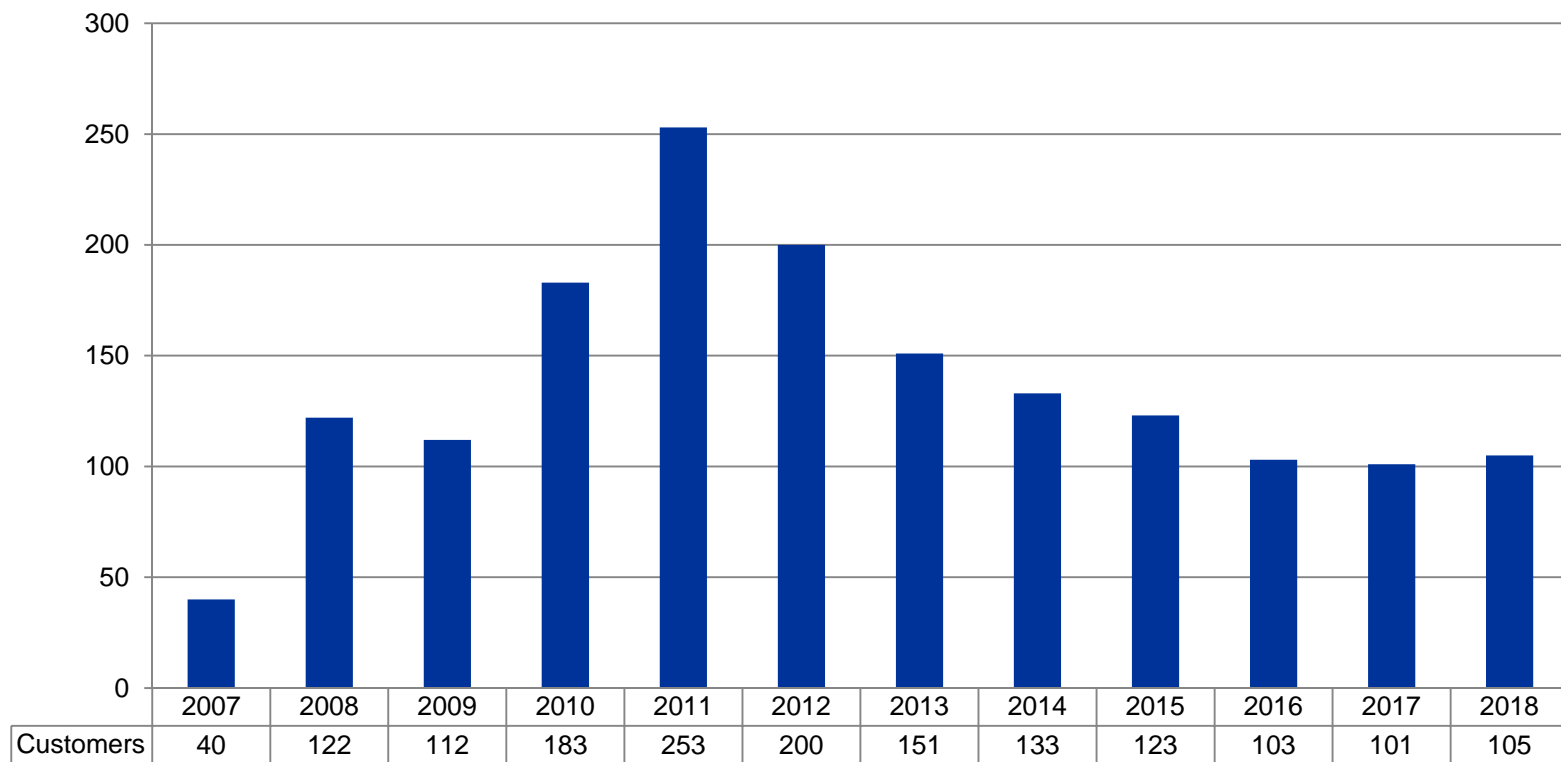
- Customer may only receive assistance once.
- Cost for upgrades average \$4,250/home
- Customer sees an average reduction of 145 kWh monthly or 13.9% savings (\$21/month)
- 1,626 customers assisted from FY07 to FY18

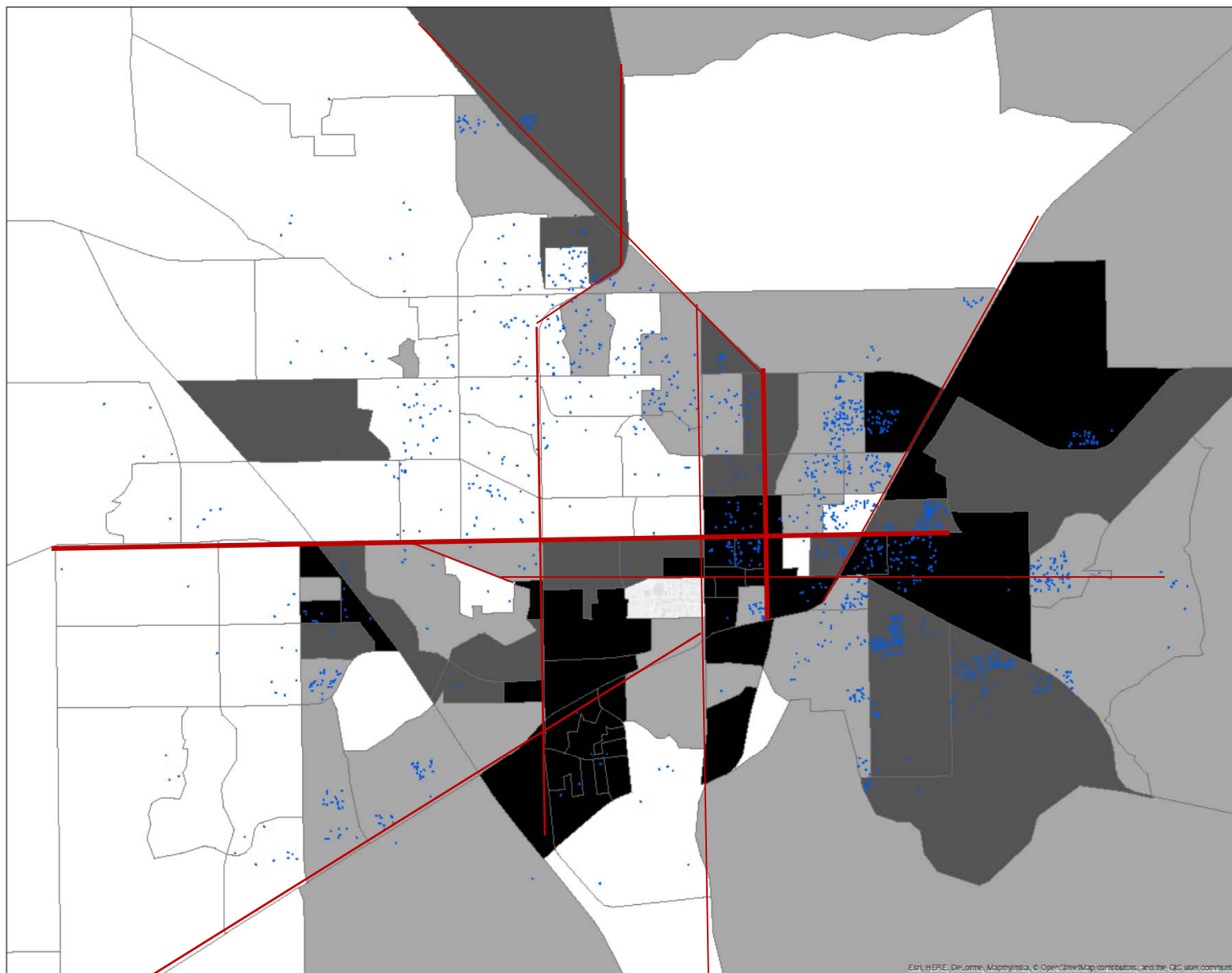
**LEEP Expenditures**  
FY07-18



# LEEP<sup>plus</sup> Customers

(FY 07-18 By Fiscal Year)





**Legend**

• LEAP Projects FT2007-2018

**Census Block Group  
Income Class**

■ Extremely Low

■ Very Low

■ Low

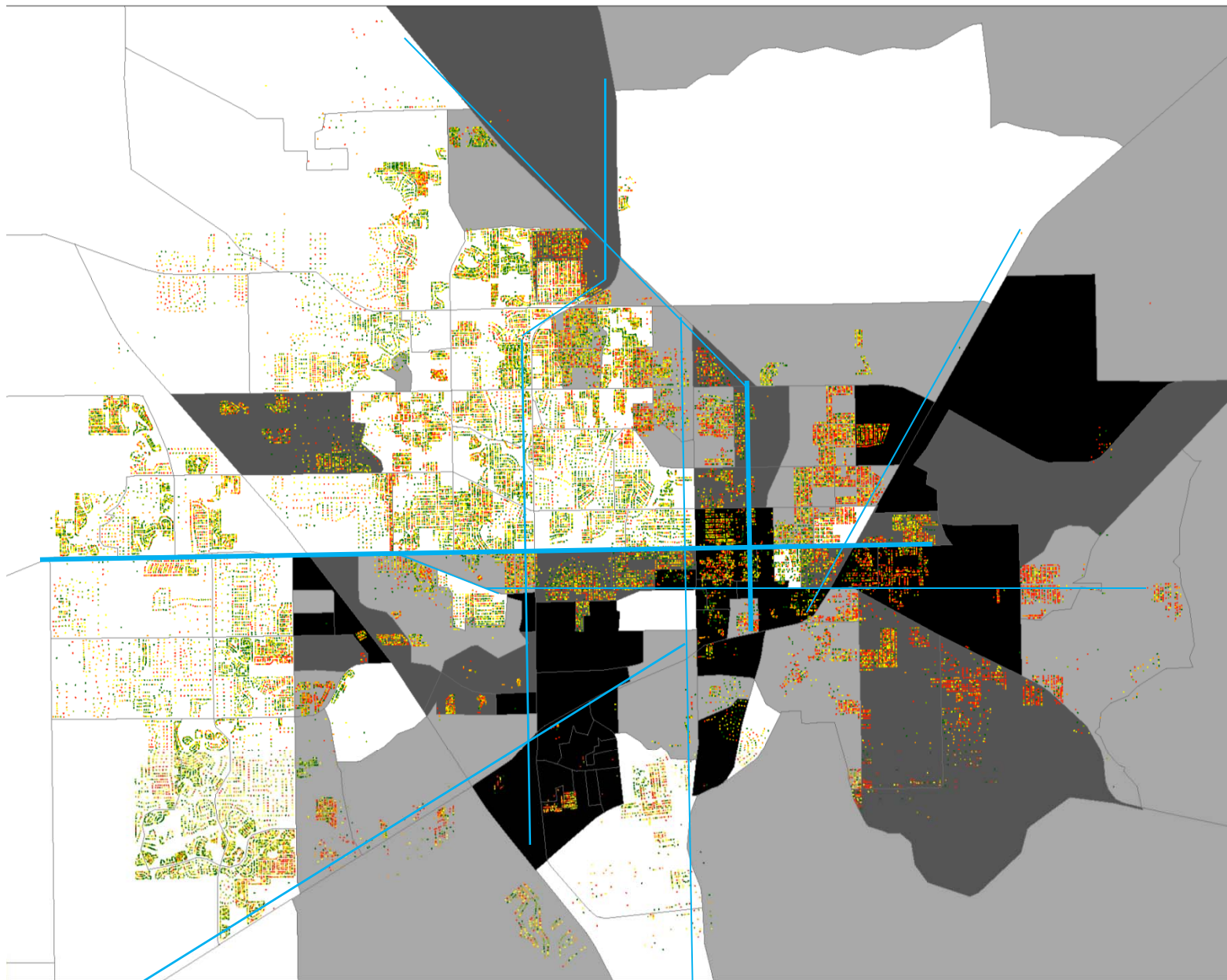
□

N

0 0.5 1 2  
Miles

**GRU**  
More than Energy™

Esri, HERE, DeLorme, MapmyIndia, © OpenStreetMap contributors, and the GIS user community



**Legend**

**SF Homes Intensity**  
Avg Monthly kWh per 1000 SqFt

- ≤ 320
- 321 - 440
- 441 - 562
- 563 - 734
- > 734

**Census Block Group**

**Income Class**

- Extremely Low
- Very Low
- Low
- 



0 0.5 1 2  
Miles





Conservation Programs and Opportunities for Renters

# **RENTER PROGRAMS**

# Savings Opportunities for Renters

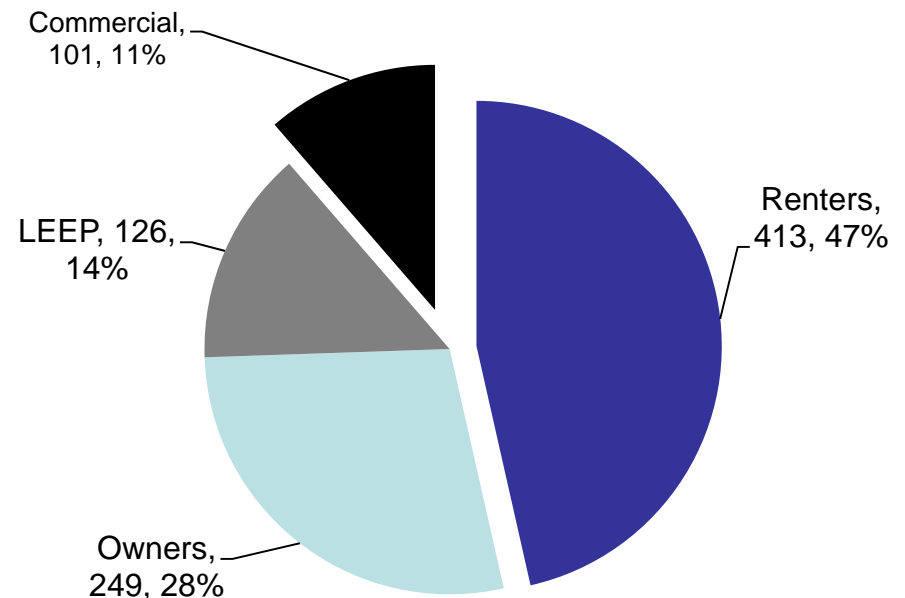
- Energy & Water Surveys
  - Home Energy Advisor Tool
  - On-Site Home Survey
  - Video-Guided Home Survey
- Kill-a-Watt EZ meters
- Resources for Renters Webpage



# Energy & Water Surveys

At the customer's request, our trained staff will inspect a home's windows, doors, ductwork, insulation, appliances and other equipment, and offer customized tips for making the home more efficient.

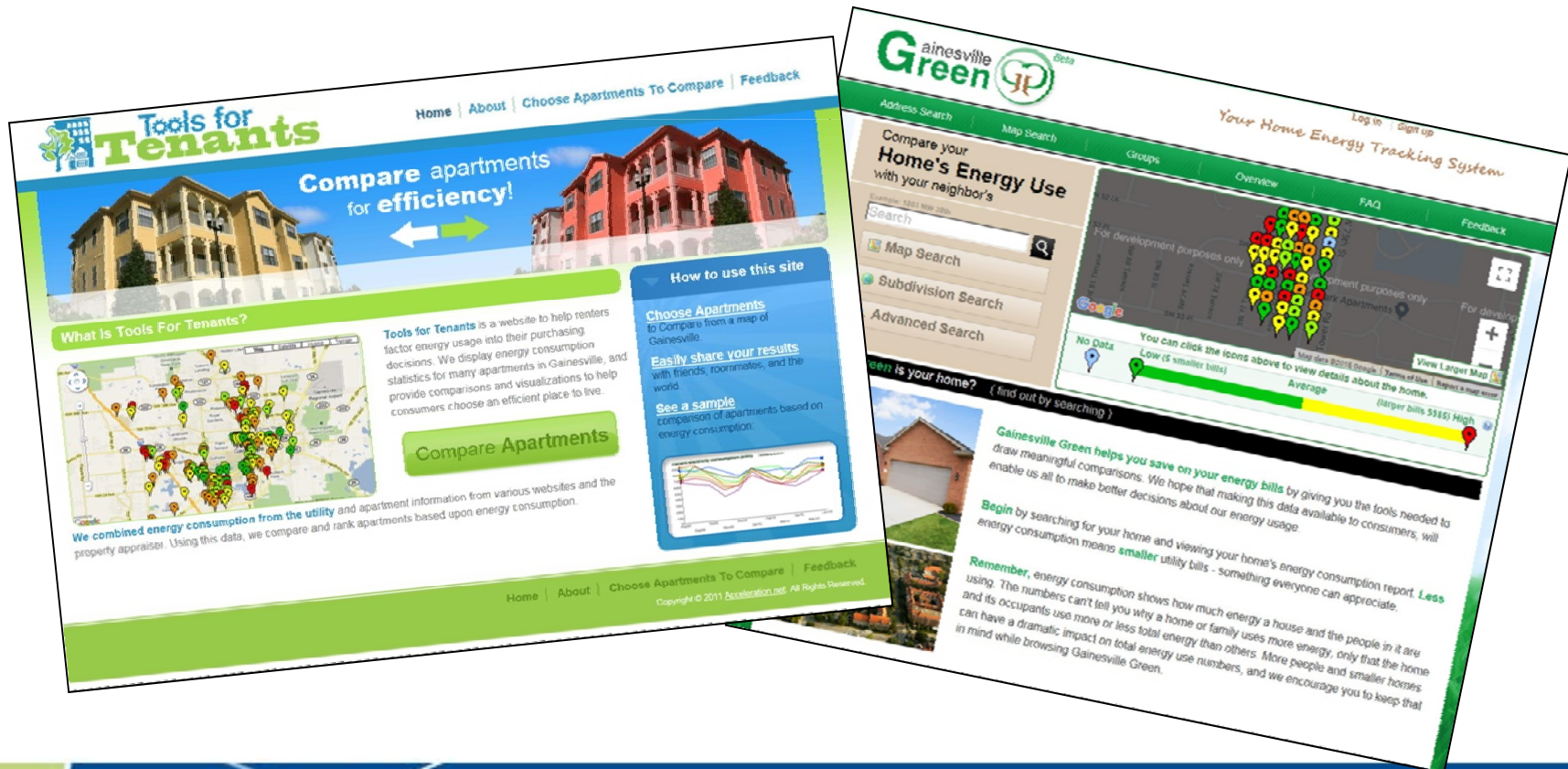
**FY18 Survey Customer Type**



# Resources for Renters

- **Tips for Choosing a Rental Property**
- **Tools for Tenants** [Website](#) to compare many of the apartment complexes based on average electricity and natural gas usage.
- **Utility bill history:** GRU can provide utility bill history for individually metered rental properties.
- **On-site inspection:** Use the [energy and water efficiency checklist](#) to inspect a property for energy and water efficiency.
- **Lower Your Utility Bill:** A short list of online resources to help understand and control utility use

# ToolsforTenants.com & Gainesville-Green.com



Utility Payment Assistance

# PROJECT SHARE



- Voluntary donations from GRU customers and employees
- The money goes towards the payment of the utility bill

Preference is given to those:

- at least 60 years of age
- disabled and unable to be self-sufficient

# Project Share

## Distributing Agencies

- Catholic Charities Bureau, Inc.
- Gainesville Community Ministry
- Salvation Army

## Contributions

- FY2018 total Project Share contributions were \$60,489.56
- In FY2017 contributions were \$62,282.63.
- This is a 3% decrease in funding



**GRU And Landlord Programs: A Brief Review Of All  
Legislative Efforts Since 2002**

# **LEGISLATIVE OVERVIEW**

# Legislative Overview

In 2002, the City Commission (CC) recommended that GRU implement an energy efficiency program in multi-family complexes built prior to 1993 as part of the Green Building Program and based on the recommendation of the Gainesville Energy Advisory Committee (GEAC) to the Community Development Committee (CDC) .

These initial recommendations lead to the creation of the Green Building Program Ordinance, the development of our rebate programs, and the Energy Efficiency Standards and Requirements (EESR) legislation which evolved into the Residential Energy Conservation Ordinance.

# Legislative Progress

- July 2004 - CC ad hoc task force on housing issues report recommended to incorporate “...energy requirements as part of the City of Gainesville's Minimum Housing Code...”
- December 2005 - CC referred these recommendations to the CDC until June of 2007, undergoing a number of legal clarifications, changes, and updates based on the recommendations of CC members and public commentary.
- July 2007 - The item to amend the Housing Code, to require R-19 as a minimum attic insulation level was initially approved for implementation pending GRU financing program is in place.

# Legislative Progress (2)

- January 2008 – Item reviewed again by CC with the implementation of the Low-Interest Loan Program
  - During this second reading, comments from members of the CC and the public led members of the CC to withdraw the initial motion to approve and referred the entire matter back to the CDC for more public input.
- July 2009 - GRU conducted landlord focus groups and presented those results along with an amended version of the EESR at the November CDC meeting.
  - The CDC approved the non-regulatory proposals in the recommendation and referred them to the CC then asked GRU staff to return with a proposal on the regulatory items in November 2009.

# Legislative Progress (3)

- In October 2010, the CDC viewed a presentation regarding minimum standards for time of sale, notice at time of rental, as well as an analysis of the proposed Commercial PACE program.
  - The CDC requested that the item be brought back for final review prior to forwarding to CC, however, it remained on the referral list
- June 2011 – Item was referred by the CDC to the new Regional Utilities Committee (RUC).
- March 2012 - RUC heard its first presentation then made additional recommendations for changes in July

There was no more official movement on the discussion item in the CDC, RUC, or the CC.

Are there any questions?

**THANK YOU**