



City Commission Planning Update



## Today's Agenda

1. **Where we are in the process**
2. **Bold ideas for ImagineGNV**
3. **Next steps**

Where we are in the process

# Where we are in the process

200988A

JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL
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## Draft chapter outline

- Outcomes and policy priorities
- Draft success metrics
- Potential bold moves to vet with City leadership

## Draft chapter text

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## Final chapter text

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# Bold Ideas for ImagineGNV

# Imagine GNV Outline

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Introduction

Gainesville  
Today

A Plan for All of  
Gainesville

Implementation  
& Accountability

Technical Appendix

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# Imagine GNV Outline

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Introduction

Gainesville  
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& Accountability

Technical Appendix

1. Where we live – housing access
2. How we move – transportation
3. How we work – employment
4. How we play – arts, culture, and preservation
5. How we learn – public education
6. How we live – our health and well-being
7. Our environment – energy, water, air, and conservation
8. Our democracy – city government

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# Where We Live – Housing Access

## Idea:

**Launch community-driven process to identify opportunity sites for affordable housing development and define levels of affordability,** in collaboration with community organizations and partners. This includes:

1. Identifying residential displacement concerns and solutions
2. Recommending and tailoring zoning and land use changes
3. Building community understanding of affordable housing options and tradeoffs

## Existing racial disparities addressed in this idea:

- Many residents in Gainesville suffer from severe cost burden of housing
- New residential development is not affordable for lower income residents

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# Where We Live – Housing Access

## Idea:

**Create housing coordinator staff role** to oversee identification of priority investments, recommend funding allocations for housing initiatives, streamline affordable housing development process, and coordinate across government housing functions. This includes:

1. Convening a Housing Working Group with government agencies, universities, financial institutions, developers, community members and others
2. Adopting strong City resolution committing funding and resources to lower development costs for priority projects (e.g. permitting support or transportation, utility, and/or other infrastructure investment)
3. Identifying and recommending allocation of new funding toward housing initiatives (e.g. federal dollars)

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# How We Move - Transportation

## Idea:

**Create a comprehensive mobility plan that ensures neighbors are served by equal levels of public transit service regardless of where they live. The plan will:**

1. Prioritize bus frequency and mobility services in East Gainesville (e.g. strengthening the mobility on demand service, implementing fare-free programs)
2. Identify a dedicated funding source for increasing mobility in East Gainesville
3. Close gaps in bike and pedestrian infrastructure

## Existing racial disparities addressed in this idea:

- Residents in East Gainesville and other neighborhoods outside downtown do not have access to frequent public transit service.
- Neighbors including East Gainesville are likely to be served by safe bike and pedestrian infrastructure.





# How We Work - Employment

## Idea:

**Establish and expand job training programs that focus on residents of color**, in collaboration with private industry and community partners. This includes:

1. Paying residents to participate in trainings
2. Holding programs near where people live, outside of downtown

## Existing racial disparities addressed in this idea:

- Residents of color are underrepresented in high-paying jobs.
- Residents in East Gainesville have difficulty accessing programs offered near downtown.





# How We Play – Arts, Culture, and Preservation

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## Idea:

**Establish 352ArtsJam Program, multi-day, movable workshops in neighborhood centers citywide with a focus on youth in communities of color. This will:**

1. Provide participatory art experiences and educational opportunities for youth.
2. Host multi-session "jams" in multi-disciplinary fields (visual art, music, dance, performance, craft, etc.) facilitated by artists of diverse backgrounds.

## Existing racial disparities addressed in this idea:

- Gainesville neighbors of color are not well-represented at the City's cultural events, and young neighbors lack access to cultural experiences that represent them.
- Artists of color are less likely to have relationships with the City and to access funding and support from the City.

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# How We Play – Arts, Culture, and Preservation

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## Idea:

**Redefine how the City evaluates assets of historic and cultural value, with input from community members and organizations representing the city's diverse communities. This will guide the work of the Historic Preservation Board.**

## Existing racial disparities addressed in this idea:

- Neighbors in communities of color are not well-represented in historic preservation discussions. (e.g. Historic Preservation Board members are not representative of Gainesville's diverse communities.)





# How We Learn – Public Education

## Idea:

### **Create an Office of Education for the City of Gainesville, tasked to:**

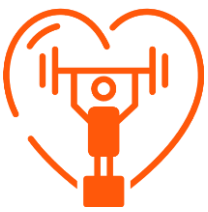
1. Create a “citizens’ education center” for all neighbors who seek access to educational resources and certification, regardless of age, experience, etc.
2. Create and implement a local education plan that ensures neighbors receive quality education and are connected to jobs;
3. Liaise with educational institutions in Gainesville and beyond;
4. Coordinate with stakeholders (e.g., federal, state and local)

### **Existing racial disparities addressed in this idea:**

- Neighbors of color and neighbors in low-income communities experience more challenges accessing educational resources or receiving high-quality public education.

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# How We Live – Health and Well-being

## Idea:

**Create a program to provide immediate support for neighbors who have been impacted by fires and accidents. This includes:**

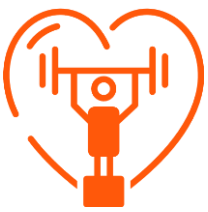
1. Providing mental health support for victims and witnesses
2. Providing shelter for victims
3. Supporting families to file insurance claims

## Existing racial disparities addressed in this idea:

- Low-income communities are less likely to have the resources on hand to recover quickly from hazards and incidents.







# How We Live – Health and Well-being

## Idea:

**Establish “Community Program Proposal Day,” a process to solicit ideas for recreational program partnerships to utilize available parks and facilities. This entails:**

1. Creating opportunities for local organizations to partner with the City to provide recreational programs in public spaces
2. Developing a rubric to evaluate program/partnership proposals equitably

## Existing racial disparities addressed in this idea:

- Organizations serving communities of color have fewer opportunities to provide public space programming due to lack of funding or networks that grant access City resources and knowledge.

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# Our Environment

## Idea:

**Define clear criteria to guide climate action investment** that incorporates risk/vulnerability data, environmental justice considerations, and socioeconomic information. This includes:

1. Regularly collect and/or update climate and all hazard risk projections as well as other data about environmental footprint
2. Develop processes to require that decisions are informed by criteria and updated data

## Existing racial disparities addressed in this idea:

- Lower-income communities and communities of color are more likely to experience negative effects of climate change, including impacts to health, housing, food access, and environmental impacts.

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# Our Democracy – City Government

## Idea:

**Establish neighborhood planning groups in historically disinvested communities to guide implementation of the Comp Plan** and develop community projects. This includes:

1. Allocating annual funding for community-driven neighborhood projects
2. Providing support and assistance as needed
3. Building community understanding and participation in decisions affecting quality of life

## Existing racial disparities addressed in this idea:

- Residents are disconnected from planning processes and want to see progress in the short-term





# Our Democracy – City Government

## Idea:

**Ensure accountability to Comp Plan progress by aligning Comp Plan with Strategic Plan, Budget, and other decision-making or reporting processes.**

This includes:

1. Creating rules and processes for regular Comp Plan updates to reflect changing priorities, new ideas, and ongoing work

## Existing racial disparities addressed in this idea:

- Residents have limited ability to see that Comp Plan goals are in progress or receive any investment





# Our Democracy – City Government

## Idea:

**Create an equity assessment tool to guide all City budgeting decisions.**

## **This includes:**

1. Requiring formal processes on when and how the tool will be used to ensure budget allocations prioritize community need and overcoming disparity

## Existing racial disparities addressed in this idea:

- Residents have limited insight in how the City prioritizes investments and allocates funding
- The impacts of historic disinvestment in predominantly Black neighborhoods are still felt today



# Next Steps

# Next steps

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