



## Legislation Text

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**File #:** 041261, **Version:** 0

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### Modification to City of Gainesville Urban Reserve Area and Statement of Services (B)

The City of Gainesville Urban Reserve area was initially adopted by the Alachua County Commission on August 15, 1991 and became effective on October 15, 1991. The area was later updated and again formally adopted on October 14, 1996. Under the Alachua County Boundary Adjustment Act, an urban reserve area defines the territory where a municipality is allowed to annex. The reserve area designated for a municipality must meet the following criteria:

- (a) Be adjacent to the municipality;
- (b) Be urban in character or likely to become urban in character within the next 10 years;
- (c) Be areas in which population growth should be directed so as to promote efficient delivery of urban services, including police, fire protection, solid waste disposal, potable water, sanitary sewer, drainage or flood control, parks and recreation, housing, street lighting, transportation and other services, and to encourage more concentrated urban development;
- (d) Shall not contain areas outside the county in which the municipality lies, contain areas within the corporate limits of another municipality, or contain areas within another municipality's reserve area;
- (e) Shall not contain areas which could be provided with urban services more efficiently by the county or other municipality;
- (f) Shall not contain areas which cannot reasonably be foreseen to be provided with the urban services provided by the municipality within the next 10 years; and,
- (g) Shall not contain areas which the municipality cannot reasonably have the capacity or capital facilities within the next 10 years to provide, at a minimum, the level of services provided by the county to the reserve areas.

Under the Boundary Adjustment Act, "urban in character" is defined as an area used for residential, urban recreational or conservation parklands, commercial, industrial, institutional, or governmental purposes or an area undergoing development for any of these purposes including any parcels of land retained in their natural state or kept free of development as greenbelt areas.

Currently, there are areas outside of Gainesville's Urban Reserve Area that are considered conservation, and/or environmentally significant. If the City were to include some of these parcels in the Urban Reserve Area for Gainesville, this would further assist in creating an "emerald necklace" around the future incorporated limits of the City. Several citizens noted this concept as very desirable at the Town Hall meeting held on November 30, 2004 as part of the County-wide Visioning and Planning Process.

In preparation for the forthcoming formal notification, the City Commission held a workshop on January 13, 2005 to discuss any desirable changes to Gainesville's current Urban Reserve Area. The County delivered the formal notification to the City requesting any and all modifications to the Urban Reserve Area on February 28, 2005. On April 11, 2005, the City Commission tentatively adopted a proposed urban reserve area to be submitted to the County pending the outcome of this public hearing. The City must submit any final desired changes to the County and the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council by May 26, 2005.

None

The City Commission: 1) hold a public hearing on the proposed modifications to the Gainesville Urban Reserve

Area; and 2) authorize the Interim City Manager to notify Alachua County and the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council of the City's desired changes to the Gainesville Urban Reserve Area and Statement of Services.