



Legislation Text

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City of Gainesville - Strategic Action Plan for Economic Development Five Year Update and Council for Economic Outreach (CEO) - Innovation Gainesville (B)

This item is a recommendation from the Economic Development University Community Committee (EDUCC) requesting the City Commission endorse a five year update to the City's Strategic Action Plan for Economic Development and CEO Innovation Gainesville effort.

In August 2004, the City Commission adopted a Strategic Action Plan for Economic Development designed to guide staff efforts in pursuing economic development with community partners. The Plan focuses on Infrastructure, Business Environment, Workforce, Diversified Economy and Quality of Life considerations. Recently, the EDUCC has spent the past few months updating the Plan in line with perceived City Commission priorities and in the context of current economic conditions.

Concurrently, the Council for Economic Outreach (CEO) unveiled its Innovation Gainesville effort. This is a community initiative to strengthen the local economy and make Gainesville a leader in emerging technological fields. This planning effort revolves around Partnership, Communication, Connectivity and Talent Development considerations.

Over the past five years, there have been many positive developments for the City of Gainesville in terms of facilitating the Innovative Economy. The community has established a critical mass of private firms, partnership entities, physical facilities and economic development mechanisms to take the City to the next level in this regard.

These overlapping planning efforts are designed to fortify the area's Innovative Economy platform and provide a road map for further progress over the next several years in concert with the City's private industry, education, non-profit and economic development partners.

No fiscal impact at this time.

EDUCC to the City Commission: 1) approve the five year update to the City's Strategic Action Plan for Economic Development and CEO's Innovation Gainesville effort; 2) direct staff to work to implement these efforts with community partners in subsequent years; 3) approve removal of the referral from the Committee's referral list; and, 4) direct staff to present quarterly reports to the EDUCC on the City's Strategic Action Plan for Economic Development.