

City of Gainesville

City Hall 200 East University Avenue Gainesville, Florida 32601

Legislation Text

File #: 160311., Version: 3

Discussion of Reducing Minor Arrests by GPD (B)

This item will outline the options that the City Commission can consider to use pre-arrest diversion initiatives (Adult Civil Citations).

ESTIMATED PRESENTATION TIME 15 MINUTES

Communities across the country are launching pre-arrest diversion initiatives designed to better address law enforcement's encounters with people who have challenges with drug use and mental health. These pre-arrest/pre-booking initiatives enable law enforcement officers, when appropriate, to divert eligible individuals away from the criminal justice system and into community-based behavioral health interventions and social services. In this way, law enforcement becomes a new and sizable pathway to treatment and social services.

Simultaneously, federal, state and local governments and organizations are advocating for increased attention to and implementation of diversion initiatives that feature partnerships among police, treatment, and the community. The reasons for growth in these diversion initiatives are many: they promise reduced crime and recidivism, improved community/law enforcement relations, reduced burden on the justice system, restored lives, and cost savings.

What's been missing from the conversation about this emerging movement is a forum where national police, treatment and community leaders can join together.

None

The General Policy Committee: 1) hear a presentation from Chief Tony Jones and DMC Coordinator Will Halvosa; 2) and consider the options available to the City to move forward.