



Legislation Text

File #: 210418., **Version:** 1

University Avenue and W 13th Street Safety Study (B)

This item relates to the overview of the corridor safety study recommendations and selection of preferred Complete Street design concepts for design and implementation. The study was prepared by HDR Engineering Inc. under contract number 2018-049-AP.

The City of Gainesville is committed to expediting a plan to increase safety in areas of high pedestrian volume, in particular University Avenue and W 13th Street. HDR Engineer Inc. was retained by the City to review prior plans, evaluate existing conditions and develop concept recommendations for implementation in the short- and long-term horizons. The study is being conducted in two phases; this presentation is for Phase 1: University Avenue between NW 22nd Street and NE 3rd Avenue; and, W 13th Street between NW 5th Avenue and SW 9th Avenue. Phase 2 of the study will commence shortly after conclusion of Phase 1.

The study provides concept level Complete Street alternatives based on extensive evaluation of existing conditions and standards, building upon the findings of previous studies and on extensive coordination with stakeholders including the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT), University of Florida (UF), Gainesville Citizens for Active Transportation (GCAT), and Gators Against Student Pedestrian Deaths (GASPD).

Implementation of the study recommendations is currently unfunded. The next step for Phase 1 is the development of construction design plans which is estimated at approximately \$500,000. The City included a funding request in the amount of \$20 million in its legislative priorities to expedite design and implementation of the overall project.

Strategic Recommendation: This item is connected to Goal 3: A Great Place to Live and Experience in the City's Strategic Plan and is a high priority item

The City Commission receive a presentation and authorize the City Manager (or designee) to (1) identify a funding source to cover the design of the preferred corridor alternatives adopted by the City Commission and (2) secure a design consultant and proceed with the design phase, subject to review by the City Attorney as to form and legality.