



Agenda Item Summary

File #: 23-00342

Agenda Date: 7/11/2023

Agenda Item Name:

City of Gainesville Cornerstone Eastside Development – Avoidance, Minimization, and Mitigation Plan

Presenter:

Mark Brown, Natural Resources Program Manager, 352-264-6815

Description:

The Cornerstone Eastside Development design plan includes a proposed 1.22 acres of impact to a single isolated wetland and the adjacent 1.88 acres of wetland buffer habitat. The mitigation proposed for the wetland impacts include the City of Gainesville purchasing an estimated 0.53 credit from the Mill Creek Mitigation Bank. The mitigation proposed for the wetland buffer encroachment includes the additional fee-in-lieu allocation of estimated \$108,852 from the City of Gainesville to the City of Gainesville's Parks Department to conduct habitat improvements to environmentally sensitive areas managed by the City of Gainesville. If the proposed mitigation plan is approved by the Board, the final agreed upon funds will be memorialized through approval of an Interlocal Agreement between Alachua County and the City of Gainesville.

Recommended Action:

Recommend approval of the City's Avoidance, Minimization, and Mitigation Plan for the Cornerstone Eastside Development and authorize the Chair to sign the Interlocal Agreement that will document designated allocation of the mitigation funds.

Prior Board Motions:

None

Fiscal Note:

None

Strategic Guide:

Environment

Background:

The Cornerstone Eastside Development is a 22-acre partnership project between Alachua County, City of Gainesville; Regional Transit System (RTS) & Community Reinvestment Area (CRA), and University of Florida (UF) Health to create an East Gainesville campus including a UF Health medical clinic, a transit hub, and public safety facility in the form of Ambulance and Fire Rescue services. In addition, the project will include open space, future medical offices, retail/grocery, and workforce

housing, all initiated by the City of Gainesville or UF Health. The project will interlink with the adjacent Gainesville Technology Entrepreneurship Center (GTEC) campus to provide a mixed-use campus with opportunities to live, work, and play.