

City of Gainesville



Betsy Waite, Wild Spaces & Public Places Director
Parks, Recreation & Cultural Affairs
City of Gainesville

**WILD SPACES & PUBLIC PLACES UPDATE TO THE JOINT ALACHUA COUNTY/CITY
OF GAINESVILLE SPECIAL MEETING**
APRIL 17, 2023

Agenda

 **Project Updates**

 **Wild Spaces & Public Places – Round 3!**

Projects completed since May

-  **Clarence R. Kelly Community Center - Pond Fencing, Basketball Court Lighting**
-  **Oakview Park - Fire Damage Restoration Work**
-  **Northside Park - Court Lighting Improvements**
-  **San Felasco Park - Pétanque Court Improvements**
-  **Sweetwater Wetlands Park - Electric Vehicles, Storage and Charging**
-  **Hogtown Creek Headwaters Nature Center – Exhibits**
-  **Tom Petty Park – Tennis Court Reconstruction and Pathway Improvements**
-  **Morningside Nature Center Improvements – New Roofs, Water Fountain and Electrical Upgrade**

WSPP Fall 2022 Project Update - <https://conta.cc/3W0Ehcv>

Projects Currently in Construction

 **H. Spurgeon Cherry Aquatics Center Renovation**

 **Albert “Ray” Massey Park Playground**

 **Unity Park Restroom**

 **Forest Park Improvements**

 **Possum Creek Skate Park Lighting**

 **A.N.N.E Park Accessibility Improvements**

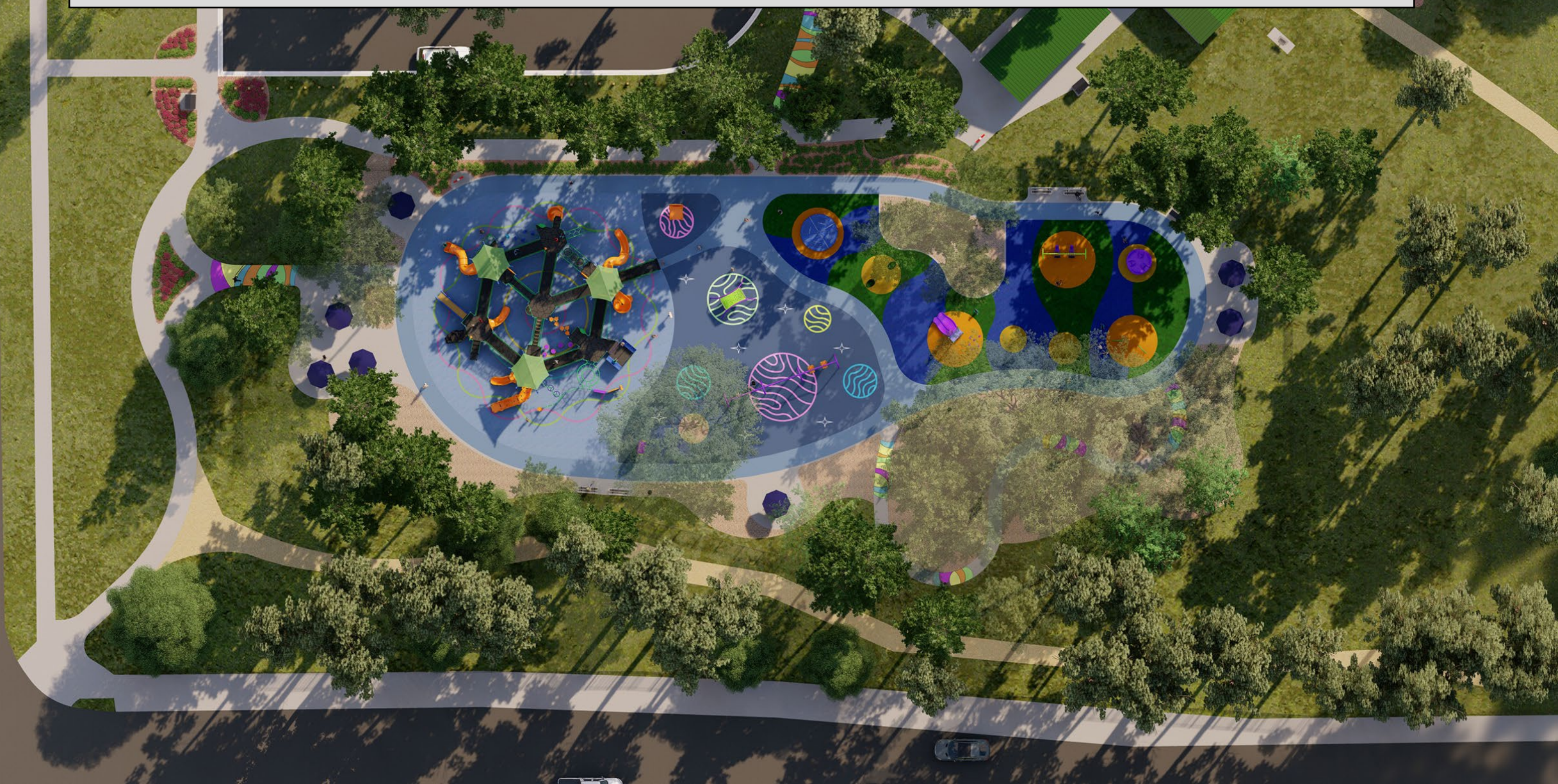
H. Spurgeon Cherry Pool Aquatics Center Renovation





Albert "Ray" Massey Park Playground

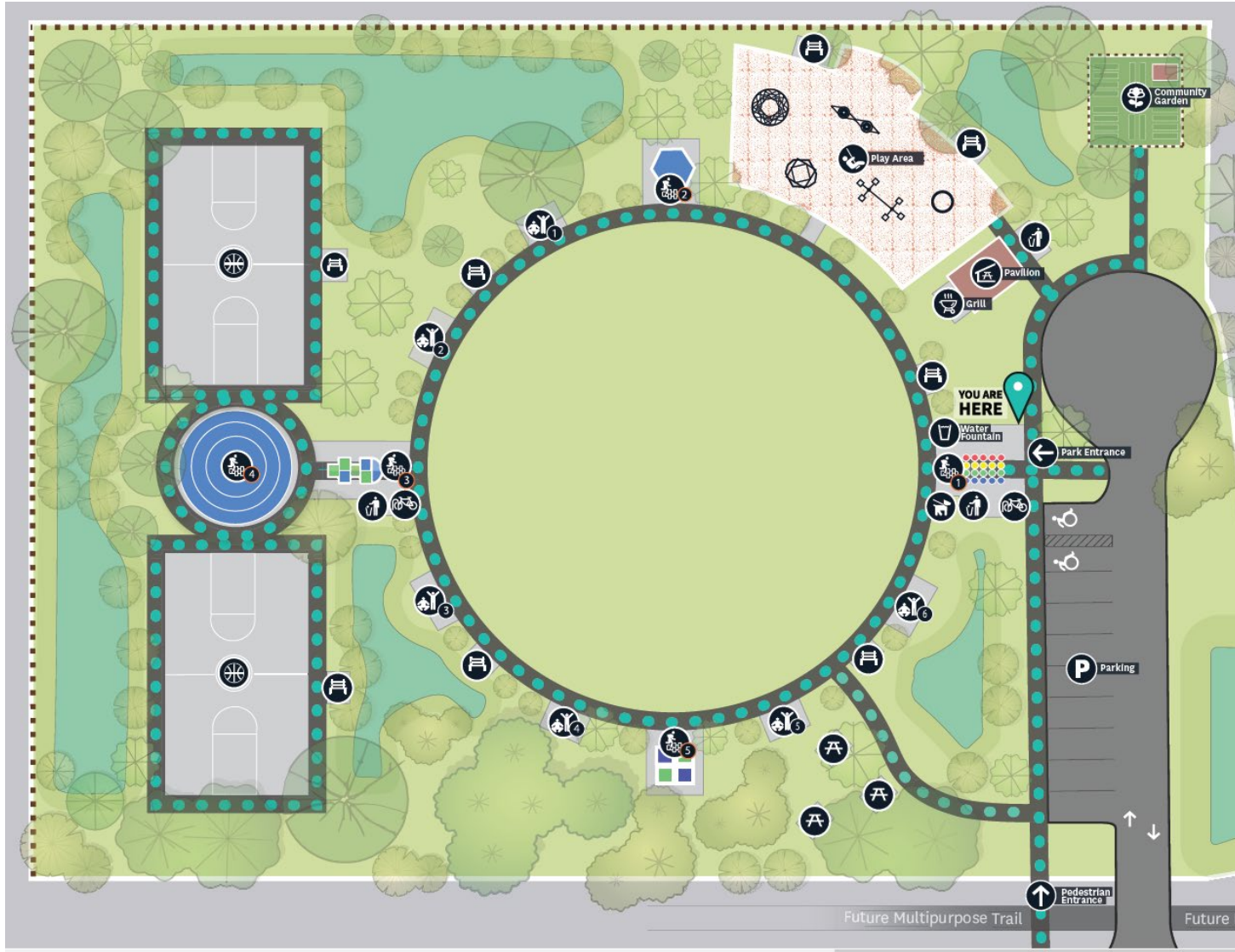
2023-369A







The addition of a restroom at



Unity Park



FLUSH RESTROOM

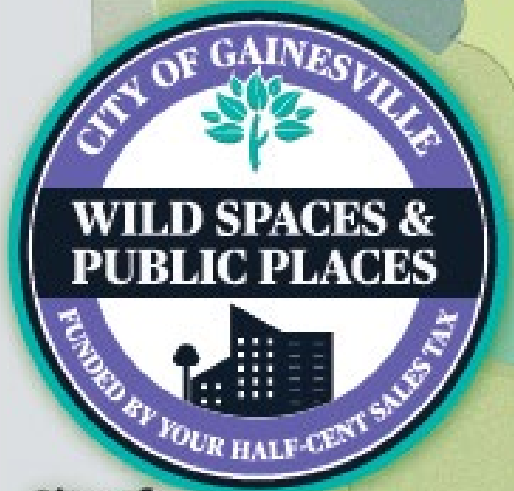


CORTEZ



Forest Park

FOREST PARK Renovation Project



City of
Gainesville
 Parks, Recreation and Cultural Affairs

- Paved/ADA Accessible Paths
- Stormwater Areas
- Vehicular Routes
- Forested Area
- Large Dog Play Area
- Parking
- Pavilions
- Pickleball/Basketball Courts
- Restrooms
- Small Dog Play Area
- Soccer Fields
- Soccer Kick wall
- Volleyball courts





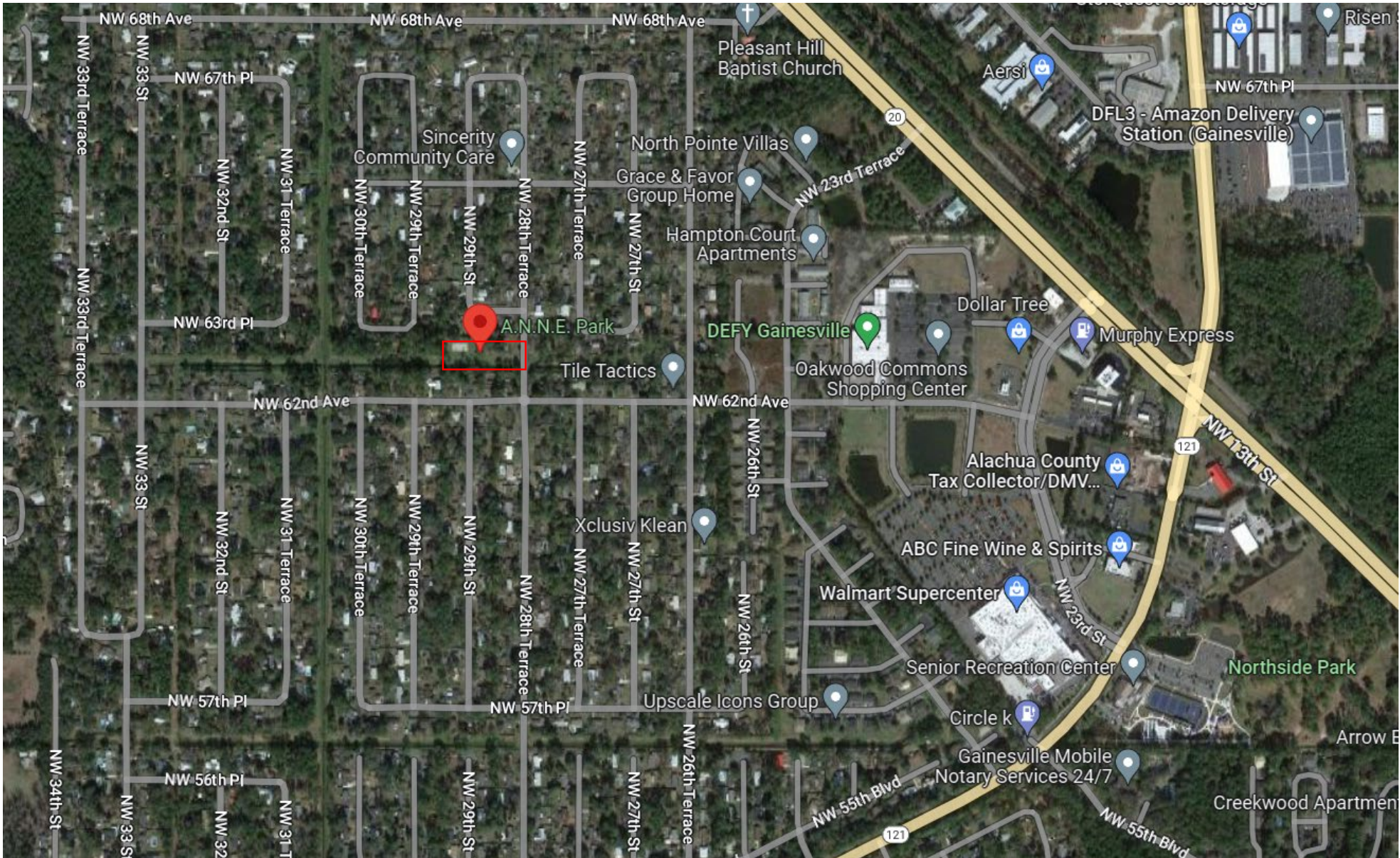
Possum Creek Skate Park Lighting

TLC for LED® - Total Light Control





A.N.N.E. Park Accessibility Improvements





Musical Instruments












15 Funded projects currently in planning, design, permitting or procurement

-  Hippodrome Theatre Improvements – Cinema and ADA Improvements
-  Dwight H. Hunter Pool – Pool Slide Replacement
-  Tom Petty Park – Softball Field Improvements
-  Lincoln Yard Trail
-  Bo Diddley Plaza – Deck
-  Park and Field Lighting Overhaul
-  Duval Park – Parking Lot, Trail, Adult Fitness Equipment and Playground
-  NE 31st Avenue Trail (NE 15th Street to NE Waldo Road)

Funded projects currently in planning, design, permitting or procurement - Continued


-  **Sweetwater Recreational Trail (SE Williston Road to Depot Park)**
-  **H. Spurgeon Cherry Pool – Pool Slide Repair/Refurbishment**
-  **Thelma A. Boltin Center Improvements**
-  **Boulware Springs Historic Water Works & Park Improvements**
-  **Festival and Arts Park**
-  **Sweetwater Recreational Trail (Sweetwater Wetlands Park to Sweetwater Preserve)**
-  **Alfred A. Ring Park Improvements**

PRCA Master Plan Update


-  July 1, 2022 – PRCA hires Barth Associates, LLC to create a PRCA community needs and priorities assessment
-  Summer, 2022 – One-on-one interviews, focus group meetings, meetings with individual City Commissioners
-  October, 2022 – Round 1 of community needs and priorities assessment meetings take place
-  Fall, 2022 – Community-wide statistically valid survey (by district) sent out
-  Fall/Spring 22/23 – Online survey
-  January, 2023 – Round 2 of community needs and priorities assessment meetings take place
-  Spring, 2023 – Finalize PRCA community needs and priorities assessment / Update PRCA's Master Plan and Wild Spaces & Public Places project priorities
-  May 11, 2023 – Discussion with the General Policy Committee on the PRCA Master Plan Update
-  June 8, 2023 - Discussion with the General Policy Committee on Wild Spaces & Public Places project priorities for 2024-2026

Wild Spaces & Public Places - 2023 through 2032!

 Passed with **52% Approval!**

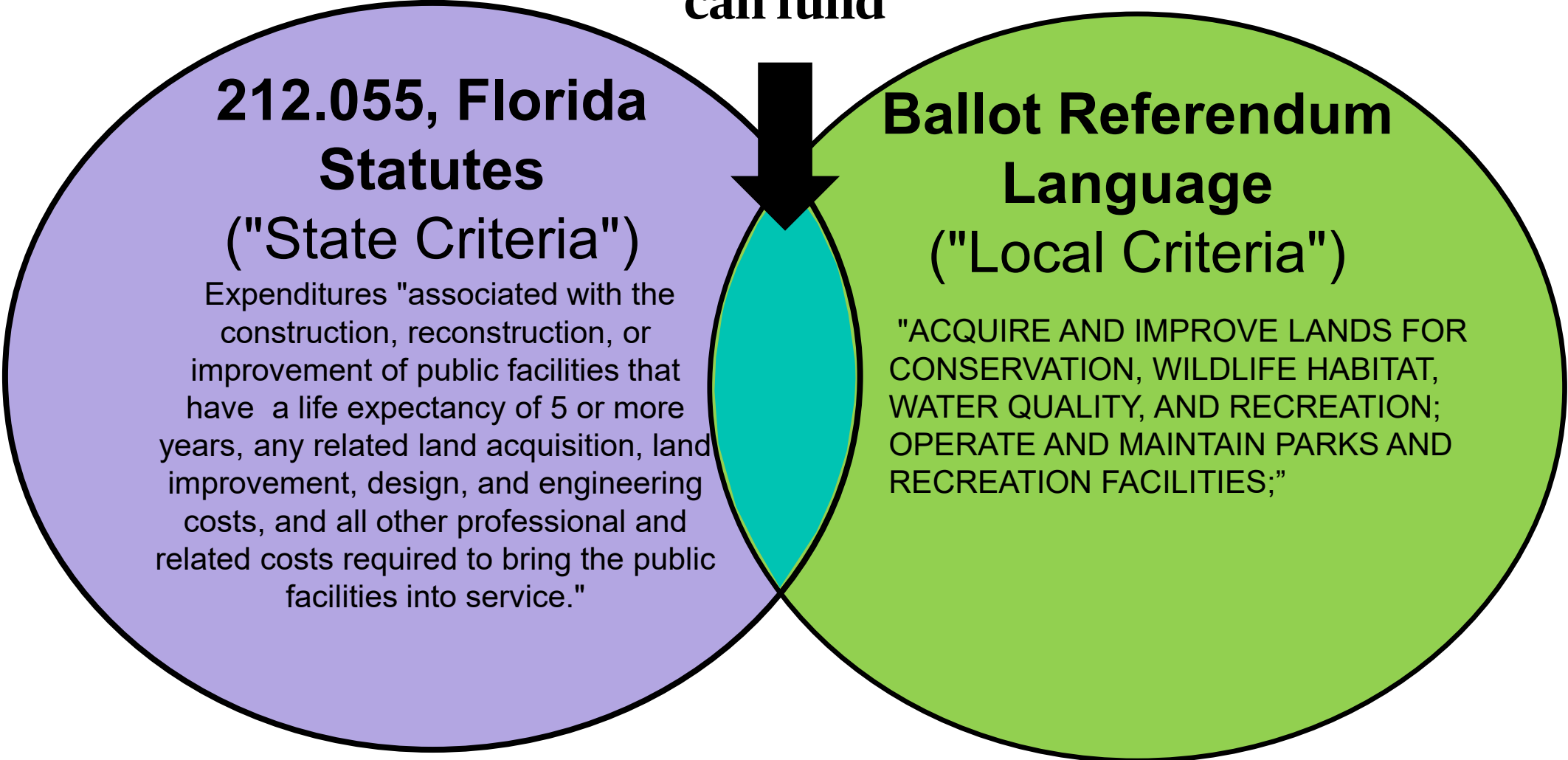
 **\$3M County Partnership Funding – Dedicated to the City of Gainesville. Proposed projects:**

- Thelma A. Boltin Center, \$1,500,000
- Citizens Field, \$1,000,000
- Sweetwater Wetlands Park, \$500,000

 **\$3M County Partnership Funding – Divided between the 9 municipalities (\$660,000 allocated during last round of WSPP). Proposed Projects:**

- NE 31st Avenue Trail (NE 15th Street to NE Waldo Road), \$330,000
- SE 15th Street Trail (Boulware Springs Park to SE 8th Avenue), \$330,000

Projects the WSPP Sales Tax can fund



212.055, Florida Statutes

("State Criteria")

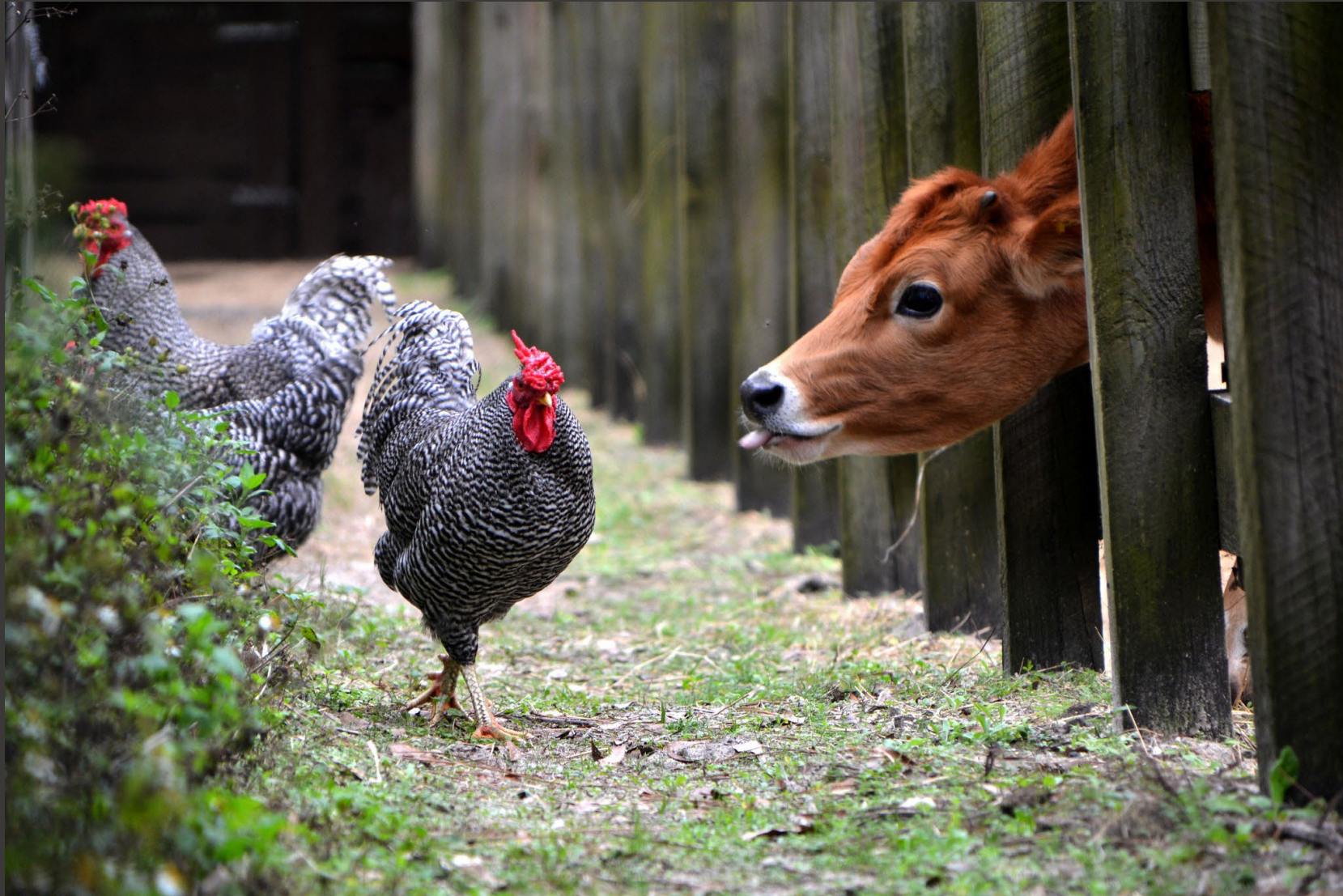
Expenditures "associated with the construction, reconstruction, or improvement of public facilities that have a life expectancy of 5 or more years, any related land acquisition, land improvement, design, and engineering costs, and all other professional and related costs required to bring the public facilities into service."

Ballot Referendum Language

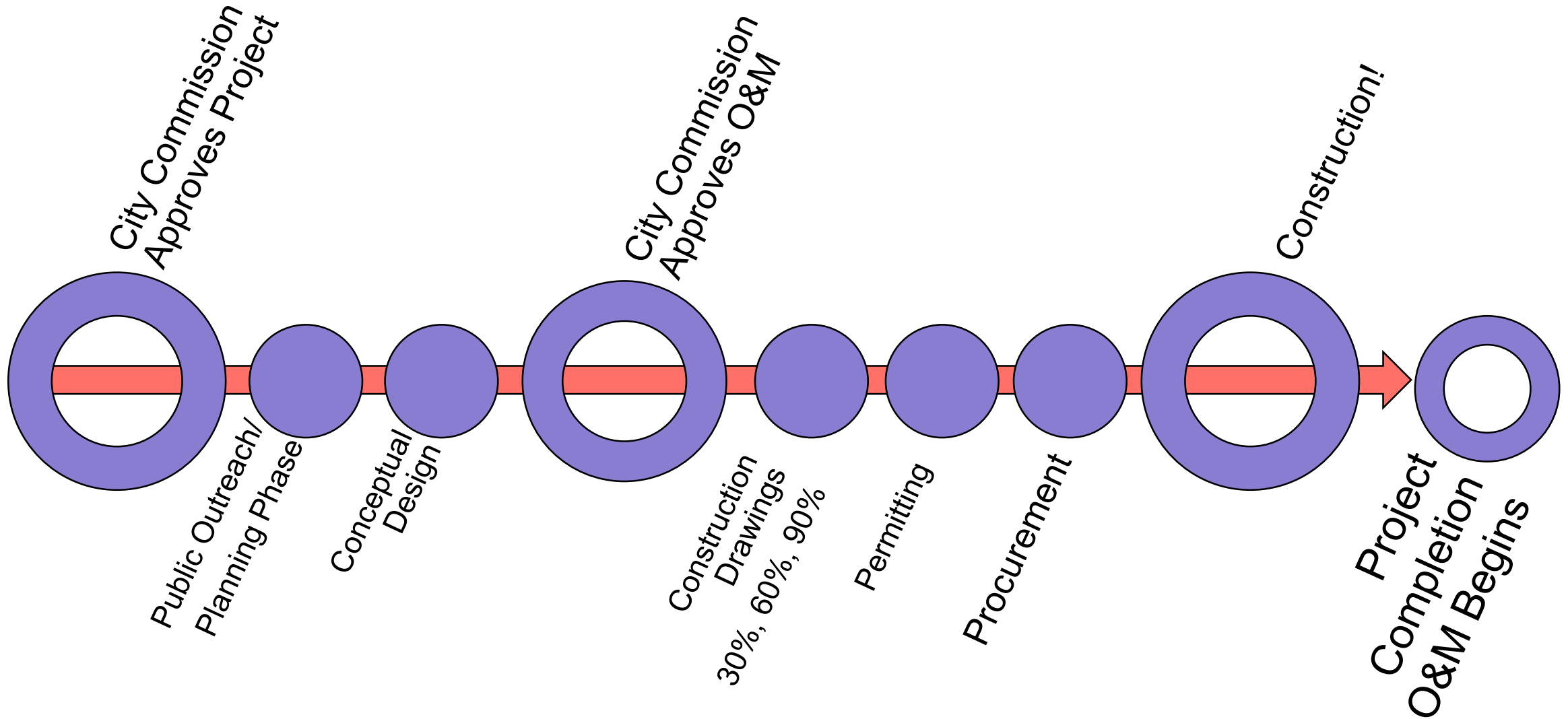
("Local Criteria")

"ACQUIRE AND IMPROVE LANDS FOR CONSERVATION, WILDLIFE HABITAT, WATER QUALITY, AND RECREATION; OPERATE AND MAINTAIN PARKS AND RECREATION FACILITIES;"




















Questions?



Project Implementation Framework



Wild Spaces & Public Places History through 2021

-  **2009-2010** – First iteration of WSPP, a 2 year long ½ cent sales tax collection
-  **November 15, 2012** – PRCA Vision 2020 Master Plan approved by City Commission
-  **February 18, 2016** – City Commission approved a list of 99 potential WSPP projects and a list of potential City/County projects
-  **November 8, 2016** – Ballot initiative for WSPP approved by voters to *acquire and improve environmentally sensitive lands to protect drinking water sources, water quality, and wildlife habitat, and; to create, improve and maintain parks and recreational facilities*
-  **January 1, 2017** – 8 year long ½ cent sales tax collection begins, ~\$5,808,000 per year, ~\$46.5M for Gainesville
-  **April 20, 2017** – City Commission approves WSPP projects for 2017
-  **April 20, 2017 and September 14, 2017** – City executes interlocal agreements with the County for \$3,000,000 for specific projects that have county-wide impact and \$660,000 from the County’s WSPP Municipal Grant Program
-  **September 28, 2017** – General Policy Committee received a presentation from PRCA with updates on 2017 projects and proposed projects for 2018
-  **April 12, 2018** – General Policy Committee received a presentation on WSPP 2018-2020 projects
-  **January 10, 2019** – General Policy Committee received a presentation on WSPP 2018-2020 projects
-  **April 11, 2019** – General Policy Committee received a presentation on WSPP 2018-2020 projects
-  **May 16, 2019** – City Commission received a presentation on WSPP 2018-2020 projects
-  **August 22, 2019** – General Policy Committee received a presentation on WSPP 2018-2020 projects
-  **October 17, 2019** – City Commission received a presentation on a list of small proposed WSPP projects
-  **March 12, 2020** – General Policy Committee received a presentation on project updates, a financial overview and discussed future projects for 2021-2024
-  **January 14, 2021** – General Policy Committee received a presentation on project updates, a financial overview and discussed future projects for 2021-2024
-  **February 25, 2021** – General Policy Committee received a presentation on an outdoor event center in Gainesville, Tom Petty Park and Glen Springs
-  **March 4, 2021** – City Commission approved a list of WSPP projects to begin in 2021 and approved Forest Park as a WSPP Project
-  **September 13, 2021** – City Commission approved a halt to the transition of O&M costs from WSPP to General Government