



## City of Gainesville Agenda Item Report

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**File Number:** 2025-16

**Agenda Date:** January 16, 2025

**Department:** Wild Spaces & Public Places

**Title:** 2025-16 Authorization to Enter into Four Memorandums of Understanding Between Gainesville Regional Utilities and the City of Gainesville for Construction, Use and Maintenance of Multi-Use Paths within GRU's Utility Right-Of-Way (B)

**Department:** Wild Spaces & Public Places

**Description:** Request for City Commission's approval to enter into four Memorandums of Understanding Between Gainesville Regional Utilities and the City of Gainesville for construction, use and maintenance of multi-use paths within GRU's utility right-of-way.

**Fiscal Note:** These new multi-use path projects will result in additional operations and maintenance expenses which will be supported with Wild Spaces & Public Places funding.

**Explanation:** In 2023 the Department of Parks, Recreational and Cultural Affairs completed a needs assessment to update the department's master plan. Through the needs assessment update it was found that expansion of the multi-use path network throughout the City of Gainesville was the highest priority need identified within the 2023 needs assessment, increasing Bicycle / Walking / Multipurpose trails throughout the city.

The purpose of these Memorandums of Understanding (MOUs) is to establish agreed upon standards for the construction, use and maintenance of multi-use paths within Gainesville Regional Utility's (GRU) utility right-of-way. GRU has constructed and currently operates and maintains Electric Transmission and Distribution, Telecommunications, Natural Gas, Potable Water, and Sanitary Sewer utility facilities within these properties. The City seeks consent for the installation, operation and maintenance of Multi-Use Paths within and along GRU utility right-of-way as described in detail within each project MOU.

Approval of these four MOUs is necessary to complete the City and GRU development review permitting processes and move these projects forward. Construction of these multi-use paths is anticipated to begin in 2025.

**Strategic Connection:**

- ☐ Goal 1: Equitable Community
- ☒ Goal 2: More Sustainable Community
- ☒ Goal 3: A Great Place to Live and Experience
- ☐ Goal 4: Resilient Local Economy
- ☒ Goal 5: “Best in Class” Neighbor Services

**Recommendation:** The City Commission 1) approve the memorandums of understanding and 2) authorize the City Manager or designee to execute all memorandum documents and other necessary documents, subject to approval by the City Attorney as to form and legality.