

City of
Gainesville



Wild Spaces & Public Places

Betsy Waite, P.E. | Wild Spaces & Public Places Director

Agenda



Establishment of Priorities



Current WSPP Workplan



Proposed 2025-2027 WSPP Workplan



Our team



Angie Gould
Marketing and
Communications



Betsy Waite
Director



Peter McNiece
Project Manager



Laura Voitle
Logistics
Coordinator



Jody Romani
Construction
Inspector

Establishment of Priorities

Step one:

- Review of outstanding projects
 - o PRCA and WSPP staff review outstanding projects from the Vision 2020 Master Plan and previously approved WSPP Workplans
- Review of the updated needs assessment
 - o PRCA and WSPP review the needs assessment report to determine what needs have high priority according to the study.
- Review Commissioner requests
 - o PRCA and WSPP staff review Commissioner requests that have been made from the dais and guidance from the City Manager.
- Review Ballot Referendum Language and State Statute 212.055
- Review Advisory Board input
- Review Interlocal Agreement with Alachua County for joint projects that have County-wide impact
- Review Interlocal Agreement with Alachua County through the County's WSPP Municipal Grant Program

Step two:

- Assemble a list of potential projects

Step three:

- Using the following criteria prioritize the projects:
 - o Assessment of condition that requires remediation or upgrades.
 - o Identify where parks, facilities are lacking based on the needs assessment.
 - o Identify where and what amenities are lacking based on the needs assessment.
 - o Assess scope of the projects and staffs' capacity to determine what projects can be done concurrently, and schedule accordingly.

Projects Currently in Construction



Park and Field Lighting Overhaul



Dwight H. Hunter Pool Slide



Small Concrete Projects / ADA Improvements at Multiple Locations



A. Quinn Jones Museum & Cultural Center Lighting Upgrades



Abby Wambach Park Restroom Renovation



Alfred A. Ring Nature Park Boardwalk Improvements



Kiwanis Challenge Park Track Improvements



Duval Nature Park Improvements – New parking lot, trail and playground



Loblolly Woods Boardwalk Hurricane Repair



Park and Field Lighting Overhaul



Dwight H. Hunter Pool Slide



Small Concrete Projects / ADA Improvements



Small Concrete Projects / ADA Improvements



Small Concrete Projects / ADA Improvements



Alfred A. Ring Park Boardwalk Improvements



Kiwanis Challenge Park Track Improvements

Current WSPP Workplan - 21 projects in planning, design, permitting or procurement

- ✿ **Hippodrome Elevator Repair**
- ✿ **Dwight H. Hunter Pool Geothermal Heater Replacement**
- ✿ **Boulware Springs Revitalization & Basin Maintenance Dredge**
- ✿ **Tom Petty Park Pickleball Courts & New Restroom Building**
- ✿ **Ironwood Golf Course Irrigation Controls Replacement**
- ✿ **Sweetwater Recreational Trail (Sweetwater Wetlands Park to Sweetwater Preserve) & (SE Williston Road to Depot Park)**
- ✿ **NE 31st Avenue Trail (NE 15th St to NE Waldo Rd)**
- ✿ **Greentree Dog Park and ADA Improvements**
- ✿ **SW 47th Avenue Trail (SW 34th St to SW 27th St) & Potential Neighborhood Park**
- ✿ **Dwight H. Hunter Pool Locker Room Refresh**
- ✿ **Fred Cone Park Track Resurfacing and Infield Repair**
- ✿ **Thelma A. Boltin Center Improvements - Phase 1 Improvements (Stabilization)**
- ✿ **Morningside Nature Center - Master Planning / New Nature Center**
- ✿ **Wilhelmina Johnson Center Improvements**
- ✿ **City Hall Plaza Refresh (Led by the City Manager's Office)**
- ✿ **Festival and Arts Park (Led by PRCA)**
- ✿ **District 3 Park (Regional/Community Scale) – Explore acquisition opportunities**
- ✿ **8th & Waldo Project (Led by the GCRA)**

Proposed Projects to begin in 2025-2027

- 🌿 **Depot Park - Visitors Center**
- 🌿 **Thomas Center "A" Renovations** - Elevator renovation and building rehabilitation as outlined in the envelope study
- 🌿 **T.B. McPherson Recreation Center Renovation** - Wholesale Capital Improvements
- 🌿 **Albert "Ray" Massey Recreation Center Renovation** - Wholesale Capital Improvements
- 🌿 **City Pool Improvements** - Replace pool pumps and other upgrades as infrastructure reaches the end of its useful life.
- 🌿 **Bo Diddley Community Plaza** – Eastside hardscape and artificial turf
- 🌿 **Evergreen Cemetery** - Visitors Center
- 🌿 **Woodland Park Improvements** - New court lighting, hardscape, adult fitness equipment, etc.
- 🌿 **Cofrin Nature Park** – Nature Center
- 🌿 **Smokey Bear Park Improvements** - Master Planning

Proposed Projects to begin in 2025-2027

Multiuse Trails - Continue to make connections for greater bike and trail access throughout the City. Proposed multiuse trails include:

-  **SE 8th Avenue Trail (GTEC building to Waldo Road),**
-  **SE 15th Street Trail (Boulware Springs Park to SE 8th Avenue),**
-  **Sweetwater Greenway (Sixth Street Trail to E University Ave),**
-  **Explore the feasibility/community interest in a pump/skills course**

City/County Partnership WSPP Projects



\$3M County Partnership Funding – Dedicated to the City of Gainesville.

Proposed projects:

- Thelma A. Boltin Center, \$1,500,000
 - 8th and Waldo, \$1,000,000
- Sweetwater Wetlands Park Visitors Center, \$500,000



\$3M County Partnership Funding – Divided between the 9 municipalities (\$333,333 for the City of Gainesville for this round of WSPP).

Proposed Project:

- NE 31st Avenue Trail (NE 15th Street to NE Waldo Road), \$333,333

Staff Recommendation

The City Commission hear a presentation from staff on Wild Spaces & Public Places project priorities for 2025-2027 and provide feedback.



Questions?

