



City of Gainesville Agenda Report

File #: 2022-579

Agenda Date: October 13, 2022

Department: City Clerk

Title: Providing No-Cost Sanitary Products in Municipal Bathrooms 2022-579 (B)

Description: This policy research request explores considering an ordinance or policy within the City of Gainesville that would require the provision of free sanitary products within all municipal bathrooms, with the potential scalability to all public buildings including public schools or other county or state-owned facilities.

Explanation:

This policy research request explores considering an ordinance or policy within the City of Gainesville that would require the provision of free sanitary products within all municipal bathrooms, with the potential scalability to all public buildings including public schools or other county or state-owned facilities. Access to sanitary products, including menstrual hygiene items (i.e., menstrual pads, tampons), toilet paper, and soap has become a globally recognized public health topic due to cost and access inequality. Over the past 10 years, the topic of providing no-cost sanitary products in public bathrooms has entered the federal landscape and prompted certain states, municipalities, and school systems to implement ordinances to increase their access through ordinances, initiatives, and policies. The cities of Ann Arbor, Michigan; Brookline, Massachusetts; and Salt Lake City, Utah have pioneered legislation requiring sanitary products in municipal and public restrooms, with California being one of the first states to require free menstrual products in public schools.

Strategic Connection:

Fiscal Note:

Recommendation:

The General Policy Committee hear a presentation from staff and discuss.