



City of Gainesville Agenda Item Report

File Number: 2023-109

Agenda Date: February 9, 2023

Department: City Manager

Title: 2023-109 Infrastructure and Wild Spaces / Public Places Surtax Update (B)

Department: City Manager

Description: This is a presentation on the status of the Wild Spaces / Public Places and Infrastructure Surtax. Staff will be presenting an update on the current Wild Spaces / Public Places program as well as making recommendations on future surtax projects.

Fiscal Note: The surtax is estimated to generate approximately \$17.4 million per year. \$8.7 million for Wild Spaces / Public Places and \$8.7 for critical infrastructure.

Explanation:

On November 8, 2022, the voters of Alachua County approved a countywide referendum on a 1% surtax to fund critical infrastructure and wild spaces / public places. One-half percent (0.5 %) will be utilized to continue the existing Wild Spaces / Public Places Program and the other one-half percent (0.5 %) will be utilized to fund existing road improvements, roadway safety projects, critical infrastructure, and affordable housing. The 10-year surtax went into effect on January 1, 2023, and will end on December 31, 2032.

In the summer and fall of 2022, Staff held public involvement process to develop the proposed Wild Spaces / Public Places project list and an infrastructure project list. The foundation for the project lists comes from the following sources:

1. Neighbor engagement;
2. Capital needs assessment;
3. Parks & Recreation Master Plan;
4. Fire Station Master Plan; and,
5. Pavement Management Plan.

Strategic Connection:

- Goal 1: Equitable Community
- Goal 2: More Sustainable Community
- Goal 3: A Great Place to Live & Experience
- Goal 5: “Best In Class” Neighbor Services

Recommendation: The City Commission: 1) receive a presentation from staff; and, 2) approve staff recommendation for the FY 2023 Surtax Work program.