



City of Gainesville Agenda Item Report

File Number: 2023-846

Agenda Date: September 7, 2023

Department: Sustainable Development

Title: 2023-846 Letter of Support for Environmental Protection Agency Solar for All Application (B)

Department: Sustainable Development

Description: Alachua County is submitting a grant application to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund Solar for All Program, and is requesting a letter of support from the City Commission.

Fiscal Note: None

Explanation: Alachua County is applying for a \$25 million grant award that would serve up to 10,000 households. The award will be applied to the Gainesville Metropolitan Area which includes incorporated municipal and surrounding unincorporated County lands. The county and city have a long track record of developing programs to assist low-income residents, including energy efficiency improvements, and affordable housing, among others. The project will further build on this track record by making solar accessible to residents in low-income and disadvantaged communities. The project will help low-income residents realize cost savings as solar becomes more cost-effective to own and operate and will help the City in achieving its goal of net zero greenhouse gas emissions by 2045.

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 authorize the Mayor to sign a letter of support on behalf of the Commission for this EPA grant application.