

Criteria and Application Form for Community ReDevelopment Grants for the Gainesville Metropolitan Area

A criteria and process that promotes community redevelopment via economic development services grants in the Gainesville Metropolitan Area. This framework compliments the County's commitment to the Gainesville Community Revitalization Area agreement (GCRA) with a focus on serving low income to moderate income citizens.

Overview

Qualified Applicants: Government and non-profit organizations with 501c3 status may apply.

Total Funding Available for Award: \$100,000 per funding cycle. Of this total, up to \$50,000 may be awarded to a qualified grantee in any funding cycle. If successful, a grantee may only receive one grant per funding cycle. In the case of multiple qualifying applications, the Board may elect to partially fund grant requests. Applications will be taken in two rounds through and expedited process to address economic recovery opportunities related to the Covid-19 outbreak.

Ranked applications will be transmitted for Board for review and award.

All dates for review and award are subject to change due to the ongoing crisis with Covid-19.

To rank applications, up to 105 points may be awarded based on the applicant's qualitative and quantitative responses to the key performance indicators referenced in the criteria. High scoring applications may be fully funded depending upon the number of successful applications. Poorly scoring or applications that fail to meet key performance indicators or grant criteria will not be awarded. Final award and amount are at the discretion of the Board of County Commissioners.

Background

As part of the Board's Special Budget Meeting on June 4, 2019, Manager Lieberman proposed the creation of an Economic Development Grant Fund. The purpose of the fund would be to capture those programs that do not fall within traditional Community Agency Partnership Program (CAPP) services and spur economic development in areas of need.

This effort aligns to the County Commission's desire to "promote the economic prosperity of all citizens, address economic equity, and diversify the tax base", per Goal 1 of the Economic Element in the Comprehensive Plan. The Economic Element further elaborates on the Board's policies relating to achieving greater prosperity for all including but not limited to the promotion of job training, local food, business incubation, nature-based tourism and recycling businesses while addressing historic equity issues. Concurrent with this goal, the City of Gainesville and Alachua County in 2019 ratified the [Gainesville Community Revitalization Area agreement \(GCRA\)](#) which seeks to catalyze redevelopment and remove the effects of slum and blight for low and moderate income residents including the elderly.

Based on both commitments, staff have drafted a grant criteria and process that promotes community redevelopment via economic development service projects in the Gainesville Metropolitan Area.

The resources for these efforts would be funded from a portion of the tax increment committed by the County to the GCRA agreement.

Criteria

Goal: Promote community redevelopment via grants for economic redevelopment that:

1. Reduces the effects of slum and blight in the Gainesville Metropolitan Area
2. Targets residents of low to moderate income including the elderly
3. Impacts the surrounding urban infrastructure rehabilitation, revitalization or conservation or any combination of benefits
4. Impacts Gainesville Metropolitan areas with low-income residents.
5. Addresses negative physical and economic conditions of slums related to disease, poverty and crime.
6. Improve the surrounding infrastructure in support of economic development goals for the reduction of slum and blight
7. Achieves Board policies related to economic development: increases economic prosperity, economic equity and diverse tax base in these areas needing redevelopment
8. *Special criteria for 2020: How the grant funds address Covid-19 impacts in the community.*

Uses: Funds will be used for grants for Professional Services Grants that promote community redevelopment through economic services, benefitting the low-income to moderate income residents and the elderly in the City of Gainesville Metropolitan Area.

Process

General Scope and Methodology

Funds will be for *Professional Services* promoting economic redevelopment. All funded grants and projects will occur within the in the [Gainesville Metropolitan Area as defined by the 2019 GCRA](#).

Location Priority: Funds may be allocated anywhere in the Gainesville Metropolitan Area but a priority will be placed on funding projects that service low to moderate income areas such as but not limited to East Gainesville and SWAG locations.

Source of Funds

The source of funds on an annual basis shall be from the County Contribution column of the 2019 Gainesville Community Revitalization Area Agreement, Section 3 Financial Contributions for Community Redevelopment in the Gainesville Metropolitan Area page 5 of 9.

Schedule of Available Funding Per Category

Date of Funds Availability	Annual Professional Service Grants Funds
Jan 1, 2020	\$100,000
Jan 1, 2021	\$100,000
Jan 1, 2022	\$100,000
Jan 1, 2023	\$100,000
Jan 1, 2024	\$100,000
Jan 1, 2025	\$100,000
Jan 1, 2026	\$100,000
Jan 1, 2027	\$100,000
Jan 1, 2028	\$100,000
Jan 1, 2029	\$100,000

Professional Service Grants

Government and non-profit organizations may submit for Professional Service Grants. A project match in either in-kind or direct match is desired. Funds may be used for operations and capital investments.

Projects will be managed by the applicant with input from agencies, stakeholders, and community groups.

Key Performance Indicators:

For Professional Service Grants applicants shall show how their proposal:

1. *Special 2020 Criteria: Demonstrate how will the grant address Covid-19 impacts in the community.*
2. Serves or is located in a priority low to moderate income area.
3. Encourages job skills training, education and entrepreneurship
4. Provides expanded opportunities for education, including jobs-related skills training to increase workforce participation and better employment opportunities for populations that are experiencing economic disparities identified in the "Understanding Racial Inequity in Alachua County" Report (2018).
5. Increases economic opportunities in distressed and under-utilized areas that considers those area's per capita income, the percentage of persons living at or below poverty and unemployment rates.
6. Estimates the number of new jobs, and or the creation, retention, expansion of businesses as a result of the grant.
7. Applicants will highlight their project proposal's applicability to the County's Economic Element, specifically found in objectives: 1.4 - EDUCATION AND EMPLOYMENT, 1.5 - EXPAND ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITIES AND REDUCE POVERTY, 1.6 LIVABLE COMMUNITIES, 1.7 LOCAL FOOD

Review and Award

All applications will be submitted to the County and reviewed and ranked by staff for Fiscal Year 2020. Typically, these ranked applications will be first reviewed by the County's Economic Development

Advisory Committee before being forwarded to the County Commission for final review and approval at the second regular Board Meeting in February. However, due to the 2020 Covid-19 crisis, this first year of the grant process, applications will be accepted and awarded by the third quarter of the fiscal year.

After FY20, all awards will be brought to the joint meeting on or before April 1st of each year and presented as part of the Annual Work Plan pursuant to Section 4 of the GCRA.

Proposals meeting the key-performance indicators, serving priority communities, and best fulfilling the applicable Economic Element objectives will be ranked higher than those projects meeting the criteria to a lesser extent.

A maximum of 105 points is available per application. Up to 100 points may be allocated per the Key Performance Indicators with an additional five bonus points depending upon the level of matching funds. Points will be awarded based on their qualitative and quantitative completeness.

Incomplete or late grant applications will not be reviewed.

Professional Service Grant Funding

All awards and final amounts are at the discretion of the Board of County Commissioners.

Awardee must have requisite 501c3 status, State certification, licenses, and or professional qualifications to provide the service.

Awardee must meet County insurance requirements.

Payments to awardees are performance based with invoices submitted for reimbursement on a monthly basis for review and payment by the County.

Maximum available award for professional service grants shall be \$50,000 per requestor, per fiscal year.

Total available funding for professional service grants \$100,000 per fiscal year.

All awarded grant recipients will provide a final report of outcomes and expenditures.

All awarded grant recipients will provide a summary overview of the final report to the Board of County Commissioners.

County Community Redevelopment Economic Development Related Policies and Objectives

GOAL 1

PROMOTE THE ECONOMIC PROSPERITY OF ALL CITIZENS OF ALACHUA COUNTY, ADDRESS ECONOMIC EQUITY, AND EXPAND AND DIVERSIFY THE COUNTY'S TAX BASE.

Policy 1.1.5 Alachua County shall expand its economic base by creating an environment which encourages job skills training, education and entrepreneurship through strong partnerships with CareerSource North Central Florida, the University of Florida, Santa Fe College, the School Board of Alachua County, YouthBuild/Institute for Workforce Innovation, and related organizations that provide education and training to the community.

Policy 1.1.6 Consistent with Energy Element Objective 2.2 and Future Land Use Element Objectives 6.1 and 6.2, Alachua County shall encourage the location and development of energy conservation, alternative energy, reuse/recycling-based industry and sustainable food production and processing businesses and industry clusters in order to achieve a higher level of sustainable economic development.

(a) Alachua County shall promote a Recycling Market Development Zone (RMDZ)/Resource Recovery industrial park focused on sustainable production of goods or materials that may include recycled content or resources collected by the County curbside recycling program or otherwise removed from the County's waste stream.

(b) Consistent with Future Land Use Element Policy 6.1.4, industries and business sectors that create a market for local agricultural products shall be encouraged to locate or expand existing local business in Alachua County.

(c) Highlight local specialty foods and farmers markets as part of the County's tourism marketing efforts.

Policies related to ranking and prioritizing projects.

Policy 1.2.3 Alachua County shall pursue an integrated approach to economic development that includes citizen input and addresses the needs of the County. The County shall support and coordinate the activities of the County's Economic Development Advisory Committee in the development and implementation and periodic update of the strategic plan for county-wide economic development. This integrated approach shall include components that address the disparities identified in the "Understanding Racial Inequity in Alachua County" Report (2018).

Policy 1.2.7 Alachua County shall establish criteria for ranking future economic development proposals/initiatives and requests for funding from economic development organizations based on their contributions to sustainable economic development and to the extent consistent with legally mandated program criteria, contributions towards the elimination of disparities.

Policy 1.2.8 Priority should be given to businesses and industries that would contribute to the flow of income into the local economy through the sale of goods and services outside of the County, or that would produce goods and services that would otherwise be imported into the

County and such firms should be encouraged to locate or expand existing local business in Alachua County.

Policy 1.2.9 Alachua County recognizes Research and Technology Parks as valuable economic assets to the community that are particularly appropriate in transit-oriented developments and mixed-use activity centers. Development of such parks and other similar ventures through expansion, development and recruitment of appropriate businesses and industries shall be given high priority.

Policy 1.2.10 Alachua County recognizes business incubators as valuable economic assets and supports incubators and similar ventures throughout the community. Expansion, development and recruitment of appropriate businesses and industries is encouraged, where consistent with the Future Land Use Element. The County shall strive to retain in the community the businesses that are established and grow from the incubators by assuring that an adequate amount of land properly designated for manufacturing and commerce activities related to the incubated enterprises is available.

Policy 1.2.11 Alachua County recognizes the value of industries related to the development of energy conservation, alternative energy, reuse/recycling-based products and sustainable food production and processing and encourages the location of these businesses and industry clusters consistent with Energy Element Objective 2.1. These industries shall be given high priority.

Policy 1.2.12 Alachua County shall promote industries and businesses that support cultural, nature-based and/or eco-tourism activities.

Policy 1.2.13 Alachua County shall support the development and expansion of small and minority: owned businesses as a means to address economic prosperity and racial and economic disparities.

Policy 1.3.2 Alachua County shall encourage the development and expansion of business and industry in appropriate locations that make efficient use of existing public services and infrastructure.

2019 Gainesville Community Revitalization Area Agreement

Excerpts and Applicable Definitions

"Community redevelopment" means undertakings, activities, or projects for the elimination and prevention of the development or spread of Slum and Blight (as defined below), or for the reduction or prevention of crime, or for the provision of affordable housing, whether for rent or for sale, to residents of low or moderate income, including the elderly, and may include slum clearance or rehabilitation and revitalization of tourist areas that are deteriorating and economically distressed, or rehabilitation or conservation, or any combination or part thereof, including the preparation of any plans for such Community Redevelopment.

"Slum" means an area having physical or economic conditions conducive to disease, infant mortality, juvenile delinquency, poverty, or crime because there is a predominance of buildings or improvements, whether residential or nonresidential, which are impaired by reason of dilapidation, deterioration, age, or obsolescence, and exhibiting one or more of the following factors:

- (a) Inadequate provision for ventilation, light, air, sanitation, or open spaces.
- (b) High density of population, compared to the population density of adjacent areas within the county or municipality; and overcrowding, as indicated by government-maintained statistics or other studies and the requirements of the Florida Building Code.
- (c) The existence of conditions that endanger life or property by fire or other causes.

"Blight" means an area in which there are a substantial number of deteriorated or deteriorating structures; in which conditions, as indicated by government-maintained statistics or other studies, endanger life or property or are leading to economic distress; and in which two or more of the following factors are present:

- (a) Predominance of defective or inadequate street layout, parking facilities, roadways, bridges, or public transportation facilities.
- (b) Aggregate assessed values of real property in the area for ad valorem tax purposes have failed to show any appreciable increase over the 5 years prior to the finding of such conditions.
- (c) Faulty lot layout in relation to size, adequacy, accessibility, or usefulness.
- (d) Unsanitary or unsafe conditions.
- (e) Deterioration of site or other improvements.
- (f) Inadequate and outdated building density patterns.
- (g) Falling lease rates per square foot of office, commercial, or industrial space compared to the remainder of the county or municipality.
- (h) Tax or special assessment delinquency exceeding the fair value of the land.
- (i) Residential and commercial vacancy rates higher in the area than in the remainder of the county or municipality.

(j) Incidence of crime in the area higher than in the remainder of the county or municipality.

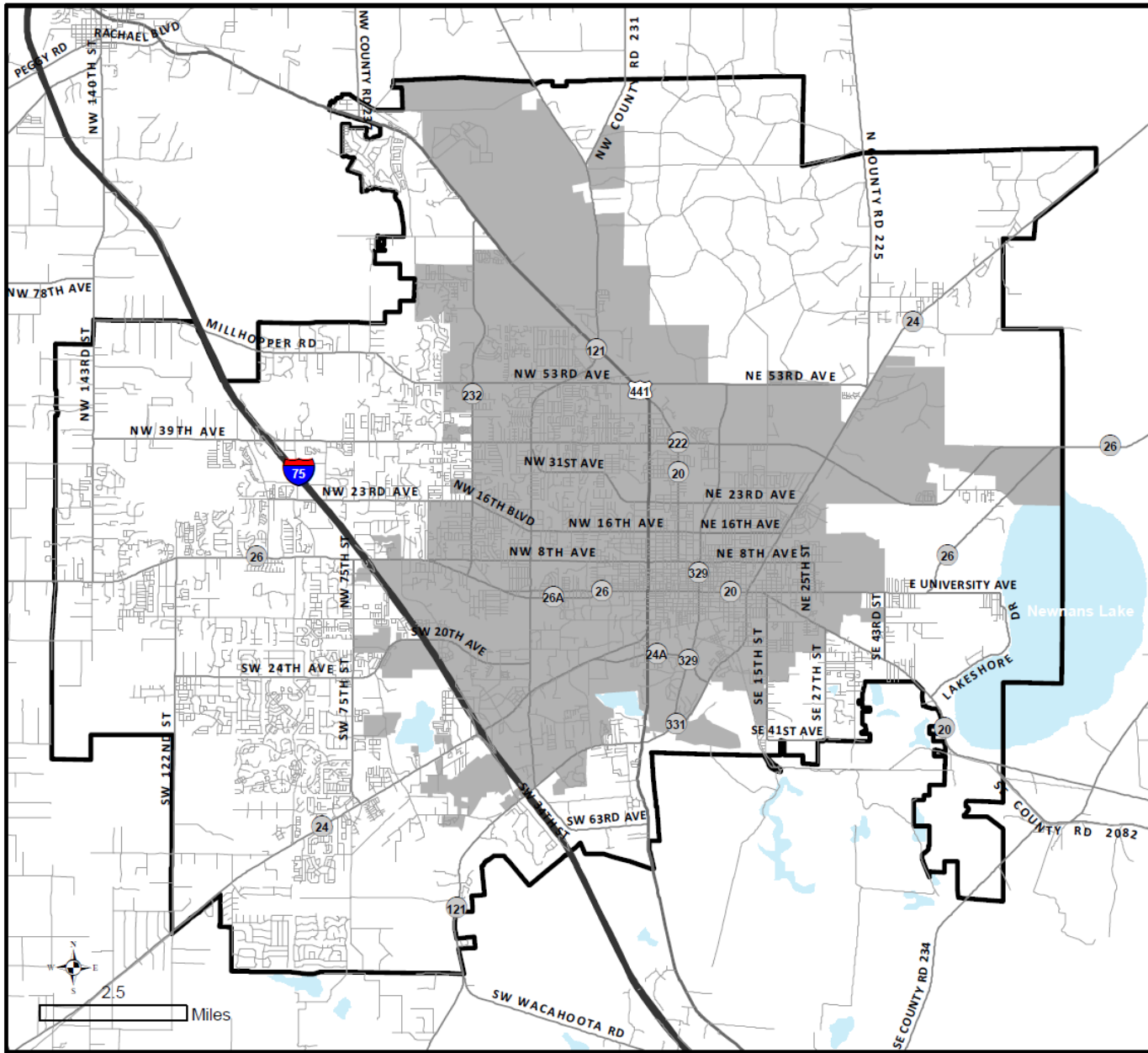
(k) Fire and emergency medical service calls to the area proportionately higher than in the remainder of the county or municipality.

(l) A greater number of violations of the Florida Building Code in the area than the number of violations recorded in the remainder of the county or municipality.

(m) Diversity of ownership or defective or unusual conditions of title which prevent the free alienability of land within the deteriorated or hazardous area.



(n) Governmentally owned property with adverse environmental conditions caused by a public or private entity.

(o) A substantial number or percentage of properties damaged by sinkhole activity which have not been adequately repaired or stabilized.



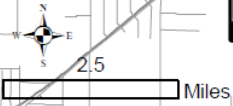
**Exhibit A: City of Gainesville
Metropolitan Area**

Legend

-  Metropolitan Boundary
-  City of Gainesville

NOTES:
Date: 2/22/2019
Map Document:

PREPARED AT:
Alachua County
Department of Growth Management
10 SW 2nd Avenue
Gainesville, FL 32601
(352) 374-5249
<http://growth-management.alachuacounty.us/>



FY2020 Application

The following items must be included for a complete response. Incomplete applications will not be considered.

Date:

Applicant Organization Name:

Business Address:

Organization Website:

Email Address:

Phone Number:

Bios of Officers and Service Providers Names:

Please attach relevant 501C3 documentation:

Please attach documentation of liability insurance coverage meeting County requirements

Background of applicant and service history in the community:

Executive Summary of the Grant Request:

Timeframe of Service (months to deploy – service that can see immediate community benefits and deliver outcomes within the same fiscal year will have a higher funding priority)

Summary of Major Outcomes:

Total Funding Request (maximum \$50,000 per applicant, per fiscal year):

Matching Funds (Maximum of 5 bonus points. One point will be allocated to the final score per every \$10,000 of match. projects that have in-kind or a hard match will have a higher funding priority) Please provide a detailed description on the nature of the match:

For Professional Service Grants applicants shall address the following issue areas:

100 total points in this section plus a maximum of five bonus points per the matching funds option above. Total potential score of 105 per application.

1. *(20 Points) Special 2020 Criteria: Demonstrate how will the grant address Covid-19 impacts in the community. Please provide a detailed response how your service grant will address the economic impacts to the targeted area and communities including specific outcomes. (300 words maximum)*

2. *(20 Points) Service and Outcomes are located in a priority low to moderate income area. Define your clients and communities/neighborhoods being served by the grant. Please provide as much detail as possible on the demographic groups impacted by the grant request. Maps showing service areas would be appreciated. Make explicit how the application relates to the 2019 Gainesville Community Revitalization Area Agreement Excerpts listed in this document. Please reference Exhibit A in the packet to provide location information. (500 words maximum)*

3. *(20 Points) Encourages job skills training, education and entrepreneurship. In addition to a detailed description of the services to be rendered per the points above, please also explicitly relate the training, education, and entrepreneurship outcomes to the relevant County Community Redevelopment Economic Development Related Policies and Objectives. (500 words maximum)*

4. *(20 Points)* Provides expanded opportunities for education, including jobs-related skills training to increase workforce participation and better employment opportunities for populations that are experiencing economic disparities identified in the "Understanding Racial Inequity in Alachua County" Report (2018). *(500 words maximum)*
This section acts as a supplement to the points referenced in issue area 3, please make explicit how the outcomes relate to the "Understanding Racial Inequity in Alachua County" Report (2018).

5. *(10 Points)* Increases economic opportunities in distressed and under-utilized areas that considers those area's per capita income, the percentage of persons living at or below poverty and unemployment rates. *(300 words maximum)*
Provide the economic opportunities, multiplier effects, and related outcomes in as much quantitative and qualitative detail as possible.

6. *(10 Points)* Estimates the number of new jobs, and or the creation, retention, expansion of businesses as a result of the grant. *(300 words maximum)*
Provide the estimated impacts with supporting documentation and or outcomes.