

City of Gainesville's Wild Spaces & Public Places

Fiscal Year 2022 Report

This video report is a summary of the City of Gainesville's portion of the Wild Spaces & Public Places program during fiscal year 2022. It's a snapshot of the city's expenditures along with highlights of a few of the transformative projects underway during the year.

View the Fiscal Year 2020 Video Report [HERE!](#)

The following document is a transcription of the Wild Spaces & Public Places 2022 fiscal report.



Introduction

Wild Spaces and Public Places' half-cent sales tax is used to acquire and improve lands for conservation, wildlife habitat, water quality, recreation, and to operate and maintain parks and recreational facilities throughout Alachua County.

This animated report is a summary of the **City of Gainesville's** portion of the Wild Spaces & Public Places program during fiscal year 2022.

Distribution of Wild Spaces & Public Places Sales Tax Dollars

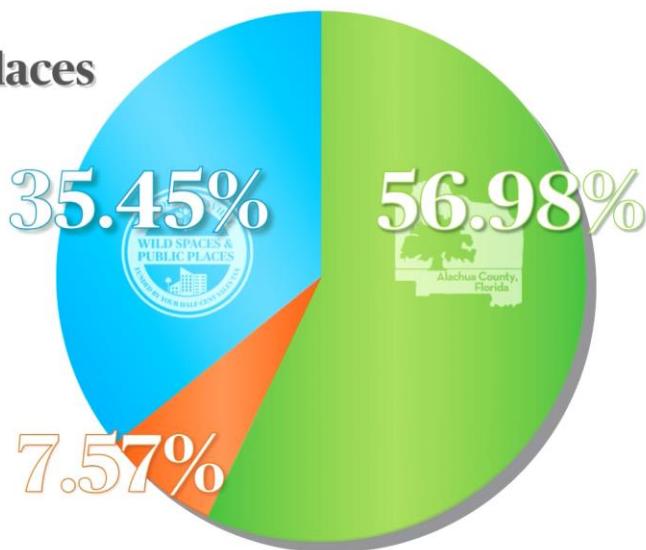
Distribution of your Wild Spaces & Public Places Sales Tax Dollars

City of Gainesville

Alachua County

Small Municipalities

Alachua, Archer, Hawthorne, High Springs, LaCrosse, Micanopy, Newberry, Waldo



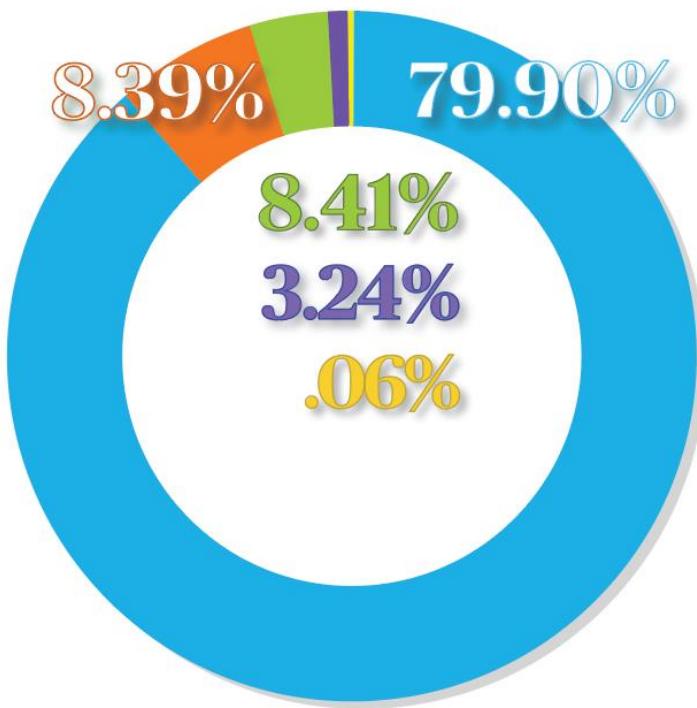
The State of Florida disburses the Wild Spaces & Public Places sales tax revenue to Alachua County and the nine incorporated municipalities within the county based on population.

- The City of Gainesville receives 35.45 percent of the sales tax collected. The City is focusing its efforts on improvements and renovations to existing parks and facilities with a few signature projects.
- Alachua County receives 56.98 percent of the sales tax collected. Of the Alachua County revenue, 80% goes toward conservation lands and 20% goes toward active parks.
- The remaining 7.57 percent of the sales tax collected is distributed amongst the 8 smaller municipalities within the county.

Fiscal Year 2022 Expenditures

Fiscal Year 2022 Expenditures

Funds received	Funds expended
\$9,183,833.88	\$ 5,701,622
Construction & Improvements	\$ 4,555,582
Construction Administration	\$ 478,505
Design & Professional Services	\$ 479,381
Operations & Maintenance	\$ 184,745
Advertising & Marketing	\$ 3,407



We are extremely proud of the spending breakdown for the City's Wild Spaces & Public Places program, with the majority of the dollars spent going directly into the job sites.

- An **impressive** 79.90% of your tax dollars were spent directly on Construction & Improvement.
- 8.39% of the money collected went towards construction administration.
- 8.41% was spent on Design & Professional Services.
- 3.24% was spent on Operations and Maintenance.
- While less than one percent was spent on Advertising & Marketing.

Making a Local Impact

Vendors utilized in FY 2022

Making a Local Impact

Vendors Utilized in FY 2022



Our team's focus is on supporting the local economy.

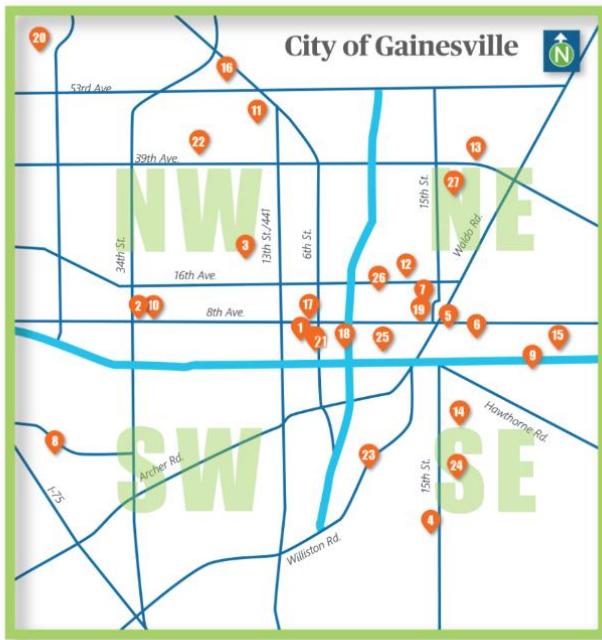
- The Wild Spaces & Public Places Program is proud to have kept over 76% of WSPP expenditures local.
 - 64 local vendors were hired directly for Wild Spaces projects.
- Over 60% of the vendors hired were small businesses.
 - 56 Small businesses were utilized on Wild Spaces & Public Places projects during the past fiscal year.
- 15 of the businesses hired were registered as diverse.
 - At least 51% of the company is owned by a woman, service-disabled veteran or person with a diverse background.

Project Locations, Fiscal Year 2022

Project Locations

FY 2022

1. A. Quinn Jones Museum & Cultural Center
2. Albert "Ray" Massey Park
3. Alfred A. Ring Park
4. Boulware Springs Nature Park
5. Clarence R. Kelly Community Center and Park
6. Duval Park
7. Dwight H. Hunter Pool
8. Forest Park
9. Fred Cone Park
10. H. Spurgeon Cherry Pool
11. Hogtown Creek Headwaters Nature Park
12. Howard Bishop Recreation Area
13. Ironwood Golf Course
14. Loblolly Woods Nature Park
15. Morningside Nature Center
16. Northeast 31st Avenue Trail
17. Northside Park
18. Oakview Park
19. Possum Creek Park
20. Rosa B. Williams Center
21. San Felasco Park
22. Southeast Williston Road to Depot Park Trail
23. Sweetwater Wetlands Park
24. T.B. McPherson Recreation Complex
25. Thelma A. Boltin Center
26. Tom Petty Park
27. Unity Park



In Fiscal Year 2022 Wild Spaces & Public Places completed nearly \$5.8 million dollars' worth of influential projects.

To name just a few of the projects worked on in fiscal year 2022

On Juneteenth 2022, a ribbon cutting ceremony and celebration took place to commemorate the completion of **The Clarence R. Kelly Community Center & Park**. Improvements made included the construction of a 3,800 square foot community center and an extensive overhaul of the neighborhood park.

Construction of a space-themed **playground at Albert "Ray" Massey Park** began in 2022 with completion expected in April 2023. The new playground offers physical, social and sensory play experiences for children of all ages and abilities. A restroom near the play area and signage are additional new amenities to the park.

A major renovation of **H. Spurgeon Cherry Pool & Aquatics Center** at Albert "Ray" Massey Park is anticipated to complete in the spring of 2023. Improvements to the 50-year old pool and Aquatics Center include replacement of the pool liner, a reconstructed entry corridor and roofing system, new showers and much more.

Sweetwater Wetlands Park Improvements included construction of 1,600 linear feet of ADA-compliant porous concrete path. The park also acquired two new electric vehicles along with a storage garage and charging stations. One 10-passenger accessible electric tram allows for guided tours while the second vehicle is used for maintenance operations.

Contact Information

For information on Alachua County's Wild Spaces & Public Places program or the programs of the 8 smaller municipalities, please contact the county or appropriate city office.

Alachua County Communications Office
website: www.alachuacounty.us
email: msexton@alachuacounty.us
phone: 352-374-5204

For information on the City of Gainesville's Wild Spaces & Public Places program, contact the city's Wild Spaces and Public Places office.

City of Gainesville
Wild Spaces & Public Places
website: www.gainesvillefl.gov
email: wildSpacespublicplaces@gainesvillefl.gov
phone: 352-393-8187

Gainesville City Commission, Fiscal Year 2022

Harvey Ward (Mayor)
Ed Book
Cynthia Chestnut
Desmon Duncan-Walker
Bryan Eastman
Rena Sacco
Casey Willits

Closing

We are thankful to the Gainesville community for your continued engagement. We rely extensively on our neighbors input throughout these projects to better understand the unique needs and wishes of the community.

And thank you, Alachua County voters, for your support of the Wild Spaces and Public Places tax initiative that makes this important work possible.