



2. When and how was the program, policy or initiative originally conceived in your jurisdiction? *100 word maximum.*

In June 2013, the City Commission approved a more stringent land development code requiring financial mitigation for the most valuable trees. This encourages preservation of high quality trees and facilitates the restoration and enhancement of the urban canopy.

3. How exactly is the program or policy innovative? How has your innovation changed previous processes, products or services? *100 word maximum.*

This program allows public works project to plant street trees through the tree mitigation fund and spend more of the original project budget on other items such as pavement, sidewalks, and stormwater treatment.

4. Explain how the program or initiative substantially stretched or improved the boundaries of ordinary governmental operations. *200 word maximum.*

This program both encourages innovative design and planning on private sites as well as provides for more comprehensive public projects.

5. What individuals or groups are considered the primary initiators of your program? How does the innovation engage stakeholders or demonstrate high performance teaming? Were strategic partnerships and/or community networks developed as a result of the innovation? *200 word maximum.*

Tree Advisory Board and the City Commission. This program has created a strong network between the Parks and Public Works departments as well as the neighborhoods benefitting from tree plantings.

6. If a private consultant was used please describe their involvement, identify the consultant and/or firm and provide contact information. *100 word maximum.*

N/A

7. To what extent do you believe your program or policy initiative is potentially replicable within other jurisdictions and why? To your knowledge, have any other jurisdictions or organizations established programs or implemented policies modeled specifically on this project? Please provide verification of the replication. *200 word maximum.*

This program should be replicable in other jurisdictions with land development codes and desires to increase their urban forestry. The program is established and defined in the City's Land Development Code which has a corollary in almost all jurisdictions.

8. What were the costs? What were the savings? *100 word maximum.*

There were no direct costs to the City outside of staff time. The savings to date is about \$285,000 and is expected to be about \$100,000 per year in perpetuity.

9. Please describe the most significant obstacle(s) encountered thus far by your program. How have they been dealt with? Which ones remain? *200 word maximum.*

When the code was written the allowable uses of tree mitigation funds was restrictive. It does not permit equipment purchases or urban forest master planning which could both be beneficial to achieving the goal of increasing the health of the urban forestry.

10. What outcomes did this program or policy have? What baseline data did you collect? How did you measure the change based on the intervention, and why do you believe in the credibility of this assessment? *200 word maximum.*

450 Trees planted and \$285,000 saved in 1 year. \$1M+ expected savings next year. Change was measured based on actual construction costs gathered. In many cases, these 450 trees would not have been able to be planted without utilizing the Tree Mitigation Fund. Savings can be spent on other infrastructure needs.

11. Has the program received any press or other media coverage to date? If yes, please list the sources and briefly describe relevant coverage. *100 word maximum.*

N/A

12. Please provide web links where the innovation can be seen/tested (in the case of something that is web-based) *100 word maximum.*

[https://www.municode.com/library/fl/gainesville/codes/code\\_of\\_ordinances?nodeId=COORGAF\\_L\\_CH30LADECO\\_ARTVIIIENMA\\_DIV2LATRMASTMAWAWACOPO\\_SDILATRMA\\_S30-254PETRREMI](https://www.municode.com/library/fl/gainesville/codes/code_of_ordinances?nodeId=COORGAF_L_CH30LADECO_ARTVIIIENMA_DIV2LATRMASTMAWAWACOPO_SDILATRMA_S30-254PETRREMI)

13. Please provide any key references and their contact information who can be interviewed/called to discuss the innovation and its impact. *100 word maximum.*

Mark Siburt, City Arborist, 352-393-8187, siburtmd@cityofgainesville.org

14. You've been to a lot of conferences. TLG should be a unique experience for everyone. Describe how your case study presentation will be different than other conference presentations. *200 word maximum.*

- How will you make the session creative and unique?
- How do you plan to be both entertaining and educational?
- Include a description of how your session will facilitate group activities and/or interaction.

The session will be creative from the uniqueness of the topic as well as the comparison of savings to equivalent miles of asphalt, sidewalk, and pipe. Tree plantings are done by all jurisdictions and the presentation will start with an open discussion of how others budget urban trees into their public works projects.

15. Anything else you would like to add? *200 word maximum.*

In a time of challenging public budgets and failing infrastructure, this program allows for trees to be included within projects that might not have been able to afford them otherwise.