

February 2023



At its annual retreat on Wednesday, Jan. 18, at the Parkview at Cascades Park, the Tallahassee City Commission discussed updates on progress toward the priority areas, initiatives and goals outlined in the City of Tallahassee's Five-Year Strategic Plan. Below are highlights about several items of interest from the retreat:

Southside Action Plan – The City works to ensure the strength of the community through targeted investments. Following robust community engagement efforts in 2021, the three-phase, multi-year Southside Action Plan is moving toward its final phase. The results of Phase 2 (feedback on the draft plan) and an overview of Phase 3 (the proposed implementation strategy for the plan) were shared at the retreat. The City's focus on infrastructure and economic development enhancements within this area have already resulted in an investment of more than \$471 million of public funding between Fiscal Year 2017 (FY17) and FY22. This concentration is also already attracting private investment, including affordable housing projects like the Magnolia Oaks development in South City. Dive into more details at **Talgov.com/Southside**.

Affordable housing – There are more than 2,300 certified affordable housing units in the pipeline locally, a figure greater than the last 25 years combined. This boost is the result of the City's strategic policy and ordinance updates, innovative housing programs and targeted development incentives. With a growing economy, the City remains well-positioned for affordable housing options to continue expanding.

Attracting new jobs – Economic development is creating jobs in Tallahassee at an accelerated rate. The City is leveraging its strengths to attract new businesses, including Amazon, North American Aerospace, Burrell Aviation and others, to the community. Combined, these businesses are slated to create thousands of local jobs, adding to an already strong employment rate.

Public safety – The City is committed to fostering public safety through community-based policing, youth engagement, innovative initiatives and preventative efforts, such as the TEMPO program and TEAM unit, which allows first responders to better support at-risk citizens.

Savings for utility customers – To build a more sustainable energy future, in FY22, the City provided nearly \$2 million in residential and commercial energy efficiency loans and \$1 million in rebates and grants for energy-efficient home upgrades to customers. In FY22, the City also took proactive measures to save utility customers \$75 million through price hedging agreements for natural gas. See available grants, loans and rebates to help with energy efficiency upgrades at **Talgov.com/Rebates**.

Clean Energy Plan – To accomplish the City's goal of achieving 100 percent net, clean renewable energy across the entire community by 2050, the Clean Energy Plan, a community-based strategy to guide solutions and adoption, is being developed. As part of this process, the City has conducted extensive community outreach over several years and a comprehensive study of the community's electric, gas and transportation needs, known as the Energy Integrated Resource Plan (EIRP). As planning nears completion, stay tuned for future discussions about clean energy policies and program recommendations that emerged during the process.

The City's mission is to be the national leader in the delivery of public service, and with guidance from the Five-Year Strategic Plan, progress is being realized. Stay informed and engaged by visiting **Talgov.com**.

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Learn RAD

To help women develop techniques to protect themselves, the Tallahassee Police Department proudly offers free R.A.D. (Rape Aggression Defense) classes. The R.A.D. System is a comprehensive, women-only course that begins with awareness, prevention, risk reduction and risk avoidance, while progressing on to the basics of hands-on defense training. There are opportunities to take this free two-day training throughout the year. Learn more at **Talgov.com**.



Wear your winter wardrobe indoors.

For every degree you lower your thermostat, you save energy and money. Let your clothes help keep you warm. 🔤 🎊



SENIOR GAMES RETURN IN MARCH

Sustainability Tip



The amazingly popular Capital City Senior Games return March 1-14. Presented by the City of Tallahassee, the games help keep Tallahassee's senior population active and healthy. Participants of all skill levels are encouraged to get involved. Adults age

50+ can register online at **Talgov.com/SeniorGames** or by phone at 850-891-3875.

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Your insight is needed about Insight. Please read the following questions and email your answers to COTNews@Talgov.com. You can also mail responses to City Communications Department, 300 S. Adams St., Tallahassee, FL 32301.

- 1. What topics do you like reading about in Insight?
- 2. What do you want to see more of in Insight?
- 3. What's one change you would make to Insight?
- 4. Do you read Insight in print or online?

WORK POOLSIDE



The City of Tallahassee is looking for great lifeguards. In partnership with the American Red Cross, the Aquatics Division offers lifeguard training classes for those interested in protecting the safety

of swimmers. Swimming instructors are needed, too. For details, visit **Talgov.com/Aquatics** or call 850-891-4903.

BEACH VOLLEYBALL

The next season of beach volleyball begins in April. The City offers the following league play options:

4v4 - Coed is a recreational league geared toward participants interested in having fun. All skill levels are welcome, and all matches will be self-officiated.

2v2 - King/Queen of the Beach is a moderate to competitive league. Players will register individually, should be moderate to competitive skill level, and prepared to play by AAU sanctioned rules.

Players in all leagues must be 18 years of age by the start of the season. For more details and registration, visit

Talgov.com/Parks.

For all City of Tallahassee utility related inquiries, please call 850-891-4968 or visit Talgov.com.

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Insight is published monthly to inform citizens about City services and related items of interest. If you require an accommodation because of a disability in order to participate in a program, service or activity, please contact the City's ADA/Title VI Coordinator at least two business days prior to the event at 850-661-3235 or **Kathleen.Wright@Talgov.com**. For persons using a TDD, please call 711. Sign language interpreters require 10 days advance notice.

MEETINGS IN

Visit Talgov.com for the current list of Tallahassee City Commission, Community Redevelopment Agency, Capital Region Transportation Planning Agency and Blueprint Intergovernmental Agency meetings and workshops.

Call the Department of Communications at 850-891-8533 for more information and view the current meeting agendas online at **Talgov.com**. Follow **@CityofTLH** on Twitter for City news.