

# City of Longwood

## Smart Growth America One-Month Status Report

### 1. Focus on the Heritage Village

- The City established a City Hall Relocation committee to consider consolidating the existing City Hall facility onto one site within the Heritage Village. One site under consideration is the current site of the Police Station, which is centrally located in the Historic District next to Reiter Park. The relocation of City Hall will allow Longwood to open additional property within the Historic District to help inspire further development in the Heritage Village.
- The City received approval from Seminole County to construct the Ronald Reagan Blvd. context-sensitive improvement project, which will reduce an impediment to pedestrian travel within the Heritage Village and help create a cohesive district between the SunRail area and the Historic District, while also providing bike lanes and on-street parking to help support the area.
- The City has purchased additional property within the Heritage Village to support a regional stormwater system.

### 2. Develop a Strategic Plan

- The City is exploring how to best leverage some of the other planning efforts undertaken, including the Heritage Village Redevelopment Strategy, to enact a citywide strategic plan.

### 3. Develop a Formal Capital Improvement Planning Process

- During the SmartGrowth America workshops, staff began to select capital projects with the Smart Growth principles in mind. Projects that supported the Heritage Village and walkability were prioritized as part of the planning process.
- Staff will continue to work to formalize the Capital Improvement Planning process and incorporate these elements.
- A new City Engineer position was included in the budget for FY 2017. If approved, the position will assume the role of managing capital improvement planning in the City.

### 4. Start With What You Can Control

- The newly-established City Hall Relocation Committee meets monthly to determine the best site for the relocation of consolidation of the existing City Hall administration buildings. This discussion has focused on utilizing City-owned property to house a new City Hall building, and open up other City-owned property to support redevelopment in the Heritage Village.

- The City has approved a master plan for Reiter Park, a City park located in the Historic Downtown portion of the City, and final design of park elements including the amphitheater is underway.

**5. Employ Walkability as an Economic Development Strategy**

- The City has worked to promote economic development by walkability through a number of construction projects anticipated in the 2017 fiscal year, including the Church Ave. Complete Street project which creates new pedestrian connections and bicycle connections in the Historic District, the Ronald Reagan Blvd. context sensitive project, new sidewalks that will connect the SunRail area, as well as the approval of a Complete Streets policy and associated Development Code changes to support these walkability efforts.