

# Residential Rental Unit Permit and Inspection Program

June 28, 2022
Board of County Commissioners

#### **City of Gainesville Update**

- Moving inspections to in-house staff
  - —in process of hiring
- No longer requiring the self-inspection checklist to obtain permit –cost and difficulty complaints
- Issues with attic inspections
- Fee update from \$122 to \$155 over two years

#### **Comments/Concerns from Property Managers/ GACAR**

## Self-inspection checklist

 a lot of hassle to schedule, and driving costs and rental rates up faster.

### State of rental housing currently

- Give Gainesville program four years to determine data and assessment of program/rental units.
  - -is the same level and scope of this program needed when 90% of rentals have been in the program with little to no improvements needed?

#### **Proposed Timeline**

October 2022 – September 2023

Issue and verify permits, educate landlords and tenants

- housing and maintenance code and energy efficiency standards

October 2023 – October 2026

**Enforce permitting and housing and maintenance code** 

October 2026

Begin enforcement of energy efficiency standards

#### **Rental Permitting Program Tentative Timeline**

- Date of ordinance adoption until October 1, 2022
  - -Set up licensing
  - Sending letters outlining program
  - Education on requirements of Code
- October 1, 2022 require landlords to begin getting permits
- January 1, 2023 begin verifying landlords, verifications of units not applying for permit

#### **Housing and Maintenance Code**

 Housing and maintenance code will be adopted under separate ordinance to replace Standard Housing Code

 Begin systematic inspections for housing and maintenance code October 2023

 Inspections for complaints after housing and maintenance code adoption would begin immediately

#### **Housing and Maintenance Code Checklist**

- Is foundation free of cracks and supporting the structure
- Does structure have deterioration
- Are exterior walls free of holes, cracks, rotting material
- Is paint peeling, flaking or chipped
- Are exterior and interior stairs, porches, guard rails free of damage and secure
- Are windows easily opened and capable of being held in position

#### **Housing and Maintenance Code Checklist**

- Do exterior doors have working locks that secure the doors
- Do windows have screens
- Bathroom in every dwelling unit
- Is plumbing in good working order
- Hot and cold water to kitchen and bathrooms
- Smoke detectors, carbon monoxide detectors

#### **Housing and Maintenance Code Checklist**

- A/C if provided in good working order
- Heat in good working order
- Free of insect and rodent infestation

#### **Estimated Units and Owners**

- 11,243 rental units
  - -10,189 separate properties
  - -8,574 separate owners

- Non-homestead single family lots with a unit 9,749 units
- Homestead single-family lots with more than 1 unit 699 units
- Multi-family lots with 1-4 units 1,539 units

#### **Education**

- Two mailouts
  - postcards with initial adoption of ordinance and letters with inserts (ordinance, self-inspection checklist, etc.)
- Informational Meetings with landlords and renters
- Press releases

# **Questions to Consider**

- Timing of adoption of Rental Permitting Program
- Timing of enforcing housing and maintenance code and energy efficiency standards
- Attic insulation inspections
- County energy efficiency grant program
- Fee