



MAKING TALLAHASSEE FLORIDA'S FIRST GIGABIT CITY

Success in today's world requires a stronger connection to technology than ever before. From basic research for a school project to sealing international business deals, a fast, reliable and affordable internet connection is crucial. Two important steps were made in 2019 to further these services for Tallahassee residents.

First, the City Commission requested two studies. One looked at municipal broadband networks. The other analyzed fiber optic networks and broadband Internet accessibility in Tallahassee. For the latter, a partnership was formed with a research team from Florida A&M University's School of Business and Industry.

Research sought to analyze the feasibility of using or expanding the City's existing municipal fiber network to provide broadband Internet to residents and businesses. The basis of the discussion was rooted in the perception of a "digital divide," in which a lack of Internet access acts as a social and economic barrier for economically-disadvantaged residents.

Highspeed internet, or broadband, is instrumental for residents as it relates to providing economic opportunity, job creation, education and civic engagement.

While the conversation and research occurred, the Commission acted on the City Manager's recommendation to immediately move the needle and enhance economic development opportunities in this space. The vote to adjust the City's policy for joint use of utility poles opened the door for private utility providers to share space on 9,000 City utility poles, roughly 15 percent of the City's inventory.

This approach proved successful, as MetroNet, a fiber optic telecommunication service provider, announced its intention to expand services to Tallahassee, bringing a planned investment of \$75 million to the Capital City. Recognizing the City's desire to close the digital divide, MetroNet agreed to invest in the Bond, Frenchtown and South City neighborhoods. The company's arrival will make Tallahassee the first Gigabit City in Florida.

Visit Talgov.com to learn more about these efforts as they continue in 2020.

MEETINGS IN MARCH

Mar 11 City Commission regular meeting at 4 pm at Hartsfield Elementary School, 1414 Chowkeebin Nene

Mar 12 Blueprint Intergovernmental Agency Economic Development Strategic Plan Workshop at 1 pm

Mar 12 Blueprint Intergovernmental Agency meeting at 3 pm

Mar 17 Capital Region Transportation Planning Agency meeting at 1:30 pm

Mar 25 City Commission workshop at 1 pm

Mar 26 Community Redevelopment Agency meeting at 9:30 am

All meetings are held in the City Commission Chambers, located on the second floor of City Hall (300 S. Adams St.), unless noted otherwise. Meeting dates, times and locations are subject to change. City Commission meetings are shown live and rebroadcast on WCOT, the City's government access channel (Comcast Cable and CenturyLink channel 13). City Commission meetings are also streamed live online and are indexed and posted for viewing on Talgov.com. Call the Department of Communications at 850-891-8533 for more information or view the current City Commission agenda online at Talgov.com. Follow @CityofTLH on Twitter for City news.

REGISTRATION OPEN FOR SENIOR GAMES

The City of Tallahassee will host the annual Capital City Senior Games in March. Registration is open. Seniors 50 years and older who would like to participate can sign up by mail, in person or online. For more information, including registration forms, visit Talgov.com.



Sustainability Tip

Rock your winter wardrobe indoors. For every degree you drop your thermostat, you save energy and money. Let your clothes help keep you warm.



DISPOSE OF YARD DEBRIS PROPERLY

Spring is fast approaching, and soon, utility customers will be placing piles of yard debris curbside for collection. Yard debris refers to vegetative fragments like tree trimmings, grass clippings, pine straw and leaves. Residential yard debris is collected at the curb in front of each residence every other week, per the Red/Blue Week schedule.

When disposing of yard debris, place it within three feet of the curb and away from low-hanging wires, trees and other obstacles, such as mailboxes, fences, etc. Clippings and pine straw may be placed in clear bags or boxes. For shrubs and limbs, piles should be no larger than 6 feet long, 4 feet wide and 4 feet high. The maximum size for limbs is 6 feet long and 4 inches in diameter. Place yard waste, bags and bulky items in separate piles for pickup. For more information on how to properly dispose of your yard debris, visit Talgov.com.

2019 YEAR IN REVIEW

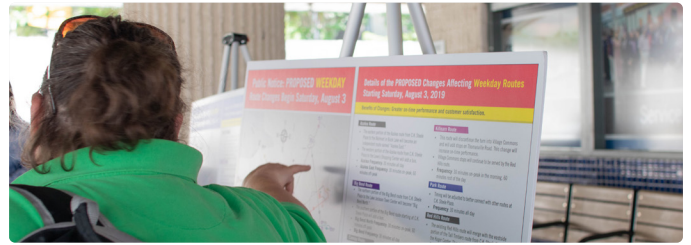
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For all City of Tallahassee utility related inquiries, please call 891-4968 or visit Talgov.com.

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INSIGHT is published monthly to inform citizens about City services and related terms of interest. If you require an accommodation because of a disability in order to participate in a program, service or activity, please contact the appropriate City department. For persons using a TDD, please call 711. Requests should be made at least seven hours in advance. Sign language interpreters require 10 days advance request.

GET ENGAGED WITH THE CITY OF TALLAHASSEE



Informed and engaged residents are instrumental in creating a strong, vibrant community. Whether you prefer to connect online or meet face-to-face, the City of Tallahassee provides ways that you can get information and get involved. Here are eight ways that you can stay connected with the City services and issues that interest you.

- **Visit Talgov.com:** Talgov.com, the City's official website, provides volumes of information about every service that the City provides from public safety and zoning to utilities and pet adoption.
- **Use Digital Subscriptions:** The City's email subscription service connects you to City news. To subscribe, go to the Talgov.com homepage, click the tab labeled "Residents" and select "Newsroom" in the drop-down menu.
- **Join a Board:** Citizen advisory boards aid the City with program and policy development. To learn more, go to the homepage of Talgov.com and click the tab labeled "Our City." From the drop-down menu, select "Citizen Advisory Boards." Go to the tab labeled "Vacancies" to view open board positions.
- **Get to Know Your Neighborhood Liaison:** The City offers liaison services to HOAs and neighborhood associations within the City limits. Learn more at Talgov.com/Neighborhoods or by calling 850-891-8795.
- **Watch WCOT:** WCOT is the City's government access channel, which airs on Comcast Cable and CenturyLink channel 13. Programming includes live streaming of City Commission meetings and workshops and much more. View our video library online at YouTube.com/CityofTLH.
- **Attend Public Meetings:** The City routinely holds public meetings to discuss projects and initiatives with residents. Meetings are announced through various mediums including, but not limited to, newspaper ads, news releases, social media, email notifications and the City's online event calendar.
- **Get Utility Alerts:** Keep your City Utility account contact information current to ensure that you receive important service information, as well as emergency alerts. Update your contact information at Talgov.com/Update or call 850-891-4968.
- **Follow CityofTLH on Social:** Connect with the City on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and YouTube by following @CityofTLH.