

# Communication Services Competition And Innovation In Florida

GRUCom

# The City of Gainesville

- ▶ Gainesville Regional Utilities
  - Electric, Gas, Water, Wastewater & Communications
- ▶ Major Industries/Employers
  - Education
  - Medical
  - Government
  - Services
- ▶ Issues
  - Urban/Rural
  - Underemployment/Low Wages
  - Reduced Tax Base
  - Economic Development
  - Dependence on GRU

# GRUCom

## ▶ Created 1996

- CAP & CLEC

## ▶ Business Lines

- Telecommunications – Fiber Transport
- Internet Services
- Public Safety Radio
- Tower Space Leasing

# Florida Cities Operating Telecommunications Utilities

## ▶ FPSC Certifications

- Bartow
- Daytona Beach
- Gainesville
- Lakeland
- Leesburg
- Ocala
- Quincy
- Tallahassee
- Tavares

# GRUCom

## Why Communications Services?

- ▶ Wide Area Networks
- ▶ Bandwidth Availability/Cost
- ▶ Reliable Control Circuits (SCADA)
- ▶ Microwave System Replacement
- ▶ Tower Space for Wireless Providers
- ▶ Fiber Backhaul for Wireless Providers
- ▶ Long Haul Bandwidth Availability
- ▶ Public Safety Radio System Improvement
- ▶ Internet Services
- ▶ Schools and Libraries Connectivity
- ▶ Economic Development
- ▶ Funding For City Government

# GRUCom Objective

- ▶ Continue to get the Fiber Optic Network deeper into the community
  - Distance Learning/Medicine
  - Enable Other Service Providers
  - New Technologies
  - Traffic Control/Security
  - Wireless Canopy
  - Utility Services
    - ▶ Automated Meter Reading
    - ▶ Services Turn On/Off
    - ▶ Load Control
    - ▶ Real Time Pricing
    - ▶ Outage Identification

# Public Policy Issues

- ▶ Incumbent Network Unbundling
- ▶ Convergence
- ▶ Broadband Over Power Lines (BPL)
- ▶ Municipalities Role/Rights