

**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT
ACTIVITIES FOR THE MONTH OF
November, 2011**

Inquires/Appointments/Successes

The EDO's efforts to recruit and maintain existing businesses continue with:

- ✓ 13 pending prospects.
- ✓ 2 incentive applications.
- ✓ 2 new projects reviewed.
- ✓ 1 Dunn & Bradstreet company search/report.
- ✓ 11 internal research requests; 1 external request.
- ✓ 10 appointments and 2 site visits with prospects, their representatives or realtors.
- ✓ Conducted 2 on-site visits with an existing business and completed intake form and provided each business with collateral package.

Meetings

- ✓ International
 - Brazil Inbound Trade Mission
 - France Inbound Trade Mission
- ✓ State Level
 - Enterprise Florida
 - Florida Economic Development Council
- ✓ Regional Level
 - Suncoast Technology Forum
 - SW Florida Regional Planning
 - Edison State College
 - Northport Community Discussion
 - Tampa Bay Partnership Annual Meeting
 - City of Cape Coral
 - Blue Chip Luncheon
 - Southwest Florida Workforce Development
- ✓ Local Level
 - Directors' Meetings, Staff Meetings
 - Meetings with Commissioners, Administration and the Attorney's Office
 - BCC Goals Retreat 2
 - Enterprise Charlotte Economic Council
 - Industrial Development Authority
 - Charlotte Harbor CRA Advisory Committee Meeting
 - Punta Gorda Chamber
 - Tourism
 - Budget
 - CCU
 - Charlotte County Chamber
 - Charlotte County Community Development
 - Business Retention and Expansion Committee
 - Charlotte County Entrepreneurial Support Organization (ESO)
 - Charlotte County Airport Authority
 - Team Punta Gorda Annual Meeting
 - Fawcett Hospital
 - Burnt Store Summit
 - Government Academy

Presentations/Newspapers/Magazines

- ✓ Speaking Engagements: Entrepreneurial Academy, Brazilian In-Bound Trade Mission, ECAP Public Hearing.
- ✓ Press Releases: Blue Chip Awards, Cheney Brothers, Lunch & Learn Entrepreneurial Week Event, i2iFL, X-Ray Industries, Lunch & Learn Winners.
- ✓ WINK Radio Interview – Economic development in Charlotte County.

Office Activities

- ✓ Website updates/redesign ongoing; created templates and web pages. Data collection included monthly housing trend chart, vacancy rates, sales tax, lease information, median home prices, unemployment stats, residential and commercial building permits, added/deleted economic development events. Updated EDO address. Updated social media site.
- ✓ Prepared and circulated monthly department newsletter.
- ✓ Prepared Agenda, Minutes and coordinated meetings for the Enterprise Charlotte Economic Council, the IDA, and the Charlotte Harbor CRA Advisory Committee.
- ✓ Reviewed and updated Charlotte County property listing profiles for on-line commercial property database.
- ✓ Moved into new office space, 18501 Murdock Circle, Suite 601, Port Charlotte.
- ✓ Updated collateral with new address.
- ✓ Tour of Cheney Brothers facility.
- ✓ Facilitated appointment of Tony Welsh of Fawcett Hospital as a Charlotte County representative on the Workforce Development Board.
- ✓ Brought forward the Global Entrepreneurship Week (GEW) Resolution to the BCC that was approved for the week of November 14-20.
- ✓ Facilitated activities for GEW with participating Entrepreneurial Support Organizations, which included attending the Punta Gorda Entrepreneurial Academy graduation ceremony, presentations at two local high schools and the Lunch and Learn Program celebrating local Entrepreneurs. 31 people attended.
- ✓ Represented the EDO office at the Blue Chip Awards in Fort Myers, two Charlotte County businesses were finalists.
- ✓ Prepared and submitted the Community-wide Brownfields Grant Application to EPA which included several support letters from organizations and property owners.
- ✓ Presented to the IDA Board an updated map and the information on the potential land swap for the IDA and CCAA properties. Scheduled a follow-up meeting with the airport to discuss property options.
- ✓ Outreach/Training - Attended the SBA program at FGCU on Exporting which provided contact information on agencies to assist our local businesses with export opportunities.
- ✓ Participated on the Program Committee for the APA Florida Annual Conference scheduled for September 2010.
- ✓ Started prep for Smarter Cities Challenge Letter and Application.

Research and Policy Initiatives

- ✓ Creating EDO policies and strategies.
- ✓ Continued working with local commercial land developers regarding land trades.
- ✓ Monitoring the Draft Enterprise Zone legislation that has been filed as HB201 and SB294.
- ✓ Presented revised ECAP landscape code to the BCC at a public hearing.

Charlotte Harbor CRA

- ✓ Facilitated the November 7 Charlotte Harbor CRA Advisory Committee meeting which included a final recommendation on the FLUM changes and continued decision on the changes to the land development code.
- ✓ Prepared and submitted a Free Technical Assistance grant application on behalf of the Charlotte Harbor and Parkside CRAs to the Livability Solutions Organization and received BCC approval for the submittal.

- ✓ Continued to manage the final permitting of Harbor Walk Phase 1. 100% plans accepted by FDOT, additional review underway by State Historic Preservation Officer and Federal Highway Administration. Submittal of updated plans to SWFWMD.
- ✓ Continued to coordinate the 4th Annual HAH Event. The 2012 event will be sponsored by Waste Management as the title sponsor with a donation of \$4,300 supporting the Charlotte Harbor Environmental Center (CHEC) partnership, three Harbor Champion Sponsors and one Community Partner secured. Posters and Registration forms are finalized and are being distributed.
- ✓ Developed a RFP on the Sibley Bay mixed use project site in coordination with the Housing Manager.
- ✓ Artist Bench Project in Charlotte Harbor CRA was completed; ten decorated benches were installed at Bayshore Live Oak Park. Participated in the announcement of the winners and attended the event.

Murdock Village CRA

- ✓ Continued to provide support to interested parties on redevelopment opportunities.
- ✓ Meet with RPC staff to discuss the submittal of an EDA Planning Grant Application to provide planning assistance to develop the Business Technology Center in Murdock Village.