

**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT
ACTIVITIES FOR THE MONTH OF
April, 2012**

Inquires/Appointments/Successes

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

- ✓ 53 pending prospects.
- ✓ 8 new projects reviewed.
- ✓ 9 site visits and presentations.
- ✓ 1 internal research requests.
- ✓ 1 company background search; 1 D&B.
- ✓ 8 appointments with prospects, their representatives or realtors.

Meetings

- ✓ International Level
 - Enterprise Florida - Spain
- ✓ National Level
 - Urban Land Institute
- ✓ State Level
 - APA Florida State Conference Program Committee
- ✓ Regional Level
 - Southwest Florida Regional Planning Council – CEDS Presentation
 - FGCU
 - Suncoast Technology Forum
- ✓ Local Level
 - Directors' Meetings, Staff Meetings
 - Meetings with Commissioners, Administration and the Attorney's Office
 - BCC Board Meetings and PreAgenda Meetings
 - Quarterly Budget Meeting
 - Charlotte Harbor CRA Advisory Committee
 - Charlotte County Industrial Development Authority
 - Enterprise Charlotte Economic Council
 - Enterprise Charlotte Foundation
 - Charlotte County Chamber
 - Punta Gorda Chamber
 - Charlotte County Community Development
 - Charlotte County Community Services
 - Charlotte County Building Services
 - Charlotte County Airport Authority
 - Charlotte County Public Works
 - Team Punta Gorda
 - Wellness at Work
 - SCORE
 - TAC/MPO

Presentations/Newspapers/Magazines

- ✓ Speaking Engagements: Retired Military Officers of America; Englewood Women Realtors
- ✓ Press Release: Innovation2Industry (i2i)
- ✓ Articles: Companies to Watch for Charlotte County Chamber
- ✓ Reporters: Charlotte Sun; *Harbor Style* magazine
- ✓ Submitted BCC Proclamation for May 8 meeting recognizing National Small Business Week (May 20-26)

Office Activities

- ✓ Website updates: 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, reworked home page Flash. Updated social media site. Added maps, Regional EIR.
- ✓ Prepared and circulated monthly department newsletter.
- ✓ Prepared Agenda, Minutes and coordinated meetings for the Charlotte Harbor CRA, and Charlotte County Industrial Development Authority.
- ✓ Prepared invitations and mailing list for Charlotte Harbor Bridge dedication.
- ✓ Reviewed and updated Charlotte County property listing profiles for on-line commercial property database.
- ✓ Coordinated the development of 4 events scheduled for National Small business Week, including involvement with SCORE and Economic Gardening and Southwest Florida Works. Prepared flyers and disseminated information to area businesses and organizations.
- ✓ Provided input to the Enterprise Charlotte Foundation on the microloan program.
- ✓ Facilitated the Entrepreneurial Support Organization meeting on April 20.
- ✓ Attended the Venture Capital Investor meeting and "How Incubators and Accelerators Can Help Start-up Enterprises" presented by Gulf Coast Venture Forum and Suncoast Technology Forum.
- ✓ Attended the April 19 CCAA meeting inviting members to attend the CEDS meeting and noting IDA's request to continue to pursue the land transfer with the CCAA.
- ✓ Participated in the Southwest Regional Planning Council April 25 public workshop seeking input on the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategic Plan.
- ✓ Facilitated the April 27 Business Retention and Expansion Committee meeting.

Research and Policy Initiatives

- ✓ Creating EDO policies and strategies.
- ✓ Continued working with local commercial land developers regarding land trades.
- ✓ Reviewed data analysis for the establishment of an Enterprise Zone in Charlotte County as authorized in HB7087 which was signed by the Governor. The County has until December 31, 2012 to file the application with the state.

Charlotte Harbor CRA

- ✓ Continued to manage the final permitting of Harbor Walk Phase I. Lease documentation received from FDOT, scheduled for BCC review and approval on May 22. FDOT has not approved advancing the project due to Federal budget concerns. Met with County Engineer to consider options.
- ✓ Coordinated the April 2 Regular Meeting of the Charlotte Harbor CRA Advisory Committee.
- ✓ Coordinated a second meeting with Sheriff's Department, Property Manager, and Engineering staff to discuss options for the pedestrian safety issues by Villas San Carlos.
- ✓ Finalized details for the May 1 dedication of the Dick Loftus Bridge including press releases, press packets, agenda and set up for the event.
- ✓ Facilitated the "Street Design and Your Community" program held April 9 and April 10 which included a walking audit Dan Burden from Walkable and Livable Communities Institute and 25 community representatives and organized a community workshop to review outcome of walking audit.

Murdock Village CRA

- ✓ Continued to participate in the master planning of Murdock Village with the Community Development Department on future land use provisions including master infrastructure plan and entitlements.
- ✓ Provided background information on the Main Stage Proposal and the US41 Gateway area to BCC at April 17 workshop.