

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

Inquires/Appointments/Successes

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

- ✓ 70 pending prospects.
- ✓ 1 new project reviewed.
- ✓ 4 site visits and presentations.
- ✓ 9 internal research requests – LexisNexis; CoStar; web.
- ✓ 10 appointments with prospects, their representatives or realtors.

Meetings

- ✓ State Level
 - APA Florida State Conference
 - Florida Economic Development Council
 - ULI Sustainability Committee
 - GrowFL
 - Enterprise Florida Quarterly Meeting
 - Small Business Loan Program Training w/Department of Economic Opportunity
- ✓ Regional Level
 - Southwest FL Regional Planning CEDS Working Committee
 - Southwest FL Workforce Development
 - Suncoast Technology Forum Board Meetings
 - Enterprise Florida Regional Marketing Meeting
 - ULI Market Trends Program
- ✓ Local Level
 - Directors' Meetings, Staff Meetings
 - Meetings with Commissioners, Administration and the Attorney's Office
 - BCC Board Meetings and PreAgenda Meetings
 - Charlotte Harbor CRA Advisory Committee
 - Enterprise Charlotte Economic Council
 - Charlotte County Airport Authority
 - Edison State College
 - Entrepreneurial Support Organization
 - TAC/MPO
 - Charlotte County Chamber
 - Punta Gorda Economic Development Task Force
 - Charlotte County Community Development
 - Charlotte County Community Services
 - Charlotte County Public Works
 - Historical Advisory Committee
 - Broadband Community Workshop
 - Health Insurance Focus Group
 - Leadership Charlotte

Presentations/Newspapers/Magazines

- ✓ Speaking Engagements: Team Punta Gorda
- ✓ Newspaper/Magazine Interviews: Newspress/Competition within Economic Development
- ✓ Press Releases/E-Mail Blasts: Entrepreneur Luncheon, Get Your Social Media On, Suncoast Technology Luncheon, Charlotte County, Sustainability Symposium: Energy Alternatives, Gulf Coast Venture Forum

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. Updated social media sites and calendar. Also worked on an FTP site. Added Enterprise Zone webpages.
- ✓ Prepared and circulated monthly department newsletter.
- ✓ Prepared Agenda, Minutes and coordinated meetings for the Charlotte Harbor CRA Advisory Committee and Murdock Village CRA Advisory Committee.
- ✓ Reviewed and updated Charlotte County property listing profiles for on-line commercial property database.
- ✓ Reviewed and updated Demographic Profile.
- ✓ Reviewed newspaper and posted articles relevant to the EDO on its website.
- ✓ Reviewed paper and electronic files for Records Retention.
- ✓ Working with the Florida/Brazil Chamber of Commerce to strengthen business ties.
- ✓ Facilitated the development of three programs for area small businesses to be held during Global Entrepreneurship Week (November 11-17) including securing the locations and speakers. Marketing materials were also designed and distributed.
- ✓ Facilitated the application process to recruit volunteers to serve on the Enterprise Zone Development Agency including a public notice seeking volunteers, follow-up on agency representation as outlined in the enabling Resolution and developing an application form for volunteers to complete. The nominees will be presented to the BCC on October 9 for consideration.
- ✓ Provided support to the development of the final 5 year Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) drafted by SW Florida Regional Planning Council as a member of the Working Committee. Prepared and presented a letter of support to the BCC on September 25, which was approved and submitted to EDA.
- ✓ Prepared and presented two letters of support for BCC approval regarding the development of Mote Marines Aquarium in Punta Gorda. The BCC approved the letters on September 25 and the letters were distributed to the appropriate parties.

Research and Policy Initiatives

- ✓ Continued to work on EDO policies, strategic plan and marketing.
- ✓ Continued working with local commercial land developers regarding land trades.
- ✓ Continued to research Certified Site Programs and how a similar program could be designed for Charlotte County.
- ✓ Worked with attorneys and County Departments on due diligence of the IMPAC facility.

Charlotte Harbor CRA

- ✓ Harbor Walk Project - The final lease document was approved by the legal department and scheduled for the October 9 BCC meeting. Continued to monitor the funding for the Harbor Walk Project based on draft rules regarding the new Transportation Bill (MAP-21). The next opportunity maybe in November 2012. Staff will continue to monitor and discuss other strategies to move the project forward.
- ✓ Met with Community Services to discuss further options for future parking areas to serve Bayshore Live Oak Park. Oversaw the tasks of the Bayshore Live Oak Park Special Events Coordinator. Finalizing a map on Bayshore Live Oak Park that can be used as a marketing tool for the park and increase participation of scheduled events.
- ✓ Facilitated the September 10 Charlotte Harbor CRA Advisory Committee meeting including a presentation on the final report from Walkable and Livable Communities "Toward Walkable Places; Parkside and Charlotte Harbor" and presentation on the Dick Loftus Bridge landscaping plan.
- ✓ Continued to develop market opportunities in Charlotte Harbor to attract outside development opportunities. Met with a developer interested in purchasing a building in the area and provided him additional information on uses allowed in the existing zoning category.
- ✓ Continued to seek information from engineering on improving pedestrian safety for residents of Villas San Carlos and surrounding areas.

- ✓ Continued to chair the Hands Across the Harbor 2013 Steering Committee. Website is developed and sponsorship forms are finalized. A video based on last year's event is being developed and will be used for marketing. Several sponsors have already committed to the event. Waste Management is the Title Sponsor and Charlotte Harbor Environmental Center will continue to be the non-profit beneficiary. Save the Date: January 26, 2013.
- ✓ Facilitated a meeting and conference call with an interested developer on redeveloping the Sibley Bay property. Due to constraints regarding density, the developer has withdrawn their proposal. Options regarding the use of the property are being reviewed.
- ✓ Provided information to Charlotte County Public Information Office who are updating the format of the Charlotte Harbor CRA website.

Murdock Village CRA

- ✓ Handled the announcement that Main Stage LLC withdrew their LOI regarding the 100 acre site in Murdock Village. Updated information on the website and the appropriate maps of the area.
- ✓ Responded to 2 inquiries on the development potential in Murdock Village.
- ✓ 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 information to the Charlotte County Public Information Office who are updating the format of the Murdock Village CRA website.