

**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT
ACTIVITIES FOR THE MONTH OF
February, 2013**

Inquires/Appointments/Successes

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

- ✓ 21 pending prospects.
- ✓ 4 new projects reviewed.
- ✓ 7 site visits and presentations.
- ✓ 8 research requests – LexisNexis; CoStar; web.
- ✓ 10 appointments with prospects, their representatives or realtors.

Meetings

- ✓ National Level
 - Retail Industry Leaders Association
- ✓ State Level
 - Urban Land Institute
 - Brownfield Symposium
- ✓ Regional Level
 - Southwest Florida District Council ULI
 - Southwest Regional Manufacturers Association
 - Southwest Florida Workforce Development
- ✓ 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 Industrial Development Authority
 - BCC Workshop
 - Charlotte County Airport Authority
 - 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
 - Health Insurance Focus Group
 - Leadership Charlotte
 - Edison College
 - Charlotte Harbor Hands Across the Harbor Committee
 - Parks & Recreation
 - Charlotte County Schools
 - County SWOT Follow-up Meetings
 - Charlotte County Business Expo

Presentations/Newspapers/Magazines

- ✓ Media Blasts: Florida Statewide Summit; Gen Y: Navigating the Generational Divide; Symposium; Valentine Vow and Dog Show at Bayshore Park
- ✓ Presentations: Charlotte County Chamber/Enterprise Zone

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. Changed background on all pages.

- ✓ Prepared and circulated monthly department newsletter.
- ✓ Prepared Agenda, Minutes and coordinated meetings for the Charlotte Harbor CRA Advisory Committee and Charlotte County IDA.
- ✓ 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 relevant company notices in LexisNexis.
- ✓ Trade show marketing tools being created and fine-tuned.
- ✓ ECAP marketing tools being created and fine-tuned.
- ✓ Researching and preparing direct mail lists.
- ✓ Worked with Harbor Style magazine on upcoming EDO/ECEC article.
- ✓ Follow-up discussion re Regional Microloan Program for the area.
- ✓ Reviewed and prepared information for the attorney's office regarding a pending case.
- ✓ Developing the local Economic Gardening Program for emerging second-stage companies in Charlotte County. Secured speaker for the ECEC March luncheon to discuss the program.
- ✓ Prepared materials and participated in the Charlotte County Chamber Business Expo.
- ✓ BCC offered Rays Spring Training Suite ticket to advisory board volunteers. Coordinated notices and distribution of tickets. Hosted the Entrepreneurial Support Organization, Enterprise Zone Development Agency, ECEC and IDA members at a spring training game.

Research and Policy Initiatives

- ✓ Continued to work on EDO policies, strategic plan and marketing.
- ✓ Continued working with local commercial land developers regarding land trades.
- ✓ Fine tuning Certified Site Programs in Charlotte County.
- ✓ Microloan program - continued to provide support to the discussion regarding the opportunity to develop a microloan program for small businesses.

Charlotte Harbor CRA

- ✓ Harbor Walk Project –Permits in place pending FDOT approval to begin construction. Staff will continue to monitor and discuss other strategies to move the project forward.
- ✓ Facilitated the development of materials and notices for the March 7 Community Meeting.
- ✓ Bayshore Live Oak Park – Continued to coordinate with Community Services and Facilities to complete approved projects in Bayshore Live Oak Park. Oversaw the tasks of the Bayshore Live Oak Park Special Events Coordinator.
- ✓ Advisory Committee – Facilitated the February 4 Charlotte Harbor CRA Advisory Committee meeting which included a discussion on topics for the March 7 Community meeting.
- ✓ Prepared a draft 2012 Annual Report for the review of the Advisory Committee.
- ✓ Facilitated the debriefing meeting with the 5th Annual Hands Across the Harbor steering committee, the event raised approximately \$7,100 for CHEC. All thank you notes to sponsors were prepared and distributed.
- ✓ Facilitated discussions regarding opportunities for private/public partnerships in the Riverwalk area of Charlotte Harbor CRA.

Murdock Village CRA

- ✓ Met with and provided information on Murdock Village to an interested party.
- ✓ Prepared the 2012 Annual Report for filing with the State.
- ✓ Met with a newspaper reporter to provide a historic overview of Murdock Village.

Enterprise Zone

- ✓ Marketing brochure was finalized and made available for distribution.
- ✓ Presented the Enterprise Zone information at the Charlotte County Chamber coffee on February 20.
- ✓ “Check out to the Zone” was the main information distributed at the Charlotte County Chamber Business Expo.