

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

Inquires/Appointments/Successes

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

- ✓ 12 pending prospects.
- ✓ 3 site visits and presentations.
- ✓ 6 appointments with realtors or business support partners.
- ✓ 3 research requests.

Meetings

- ✓ National Level
 - Select USA Investment Summit
- ✓ State Level
 - Enterprise Florida
- ✓ Regional Level
 - FGCU
 - Southwest Florida Workforce Development Board
 - Economic Development Regional Partnership
 - Suncoast Technology Forum Board
 - Blue Chip Awards Luncheon
 - SW Florida Workforce Development Programming and Planning Committee
- ✓ 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
 - Charlotte County Industrial Development Authority
 - Enterprise Charlotte Economic Council
 - Enterprise Zone Property Owners
 - Charlotte County Airport Authority
 - Charlotte County Chamber
 - Punta Gorda Economic Development Task Force
 - Tourism
 - Purchasing
 - Budget
 - Human Services
 - Public Works
 - Charlotte County Community Development
 - Charlotte County IT Department
 - Charlotte County Community Services
 - City of Punta Gorda
 - Health Insurance Focus Group

Presentations/Newspapers/Magazines

- ✓ Press Releases/Email Blasts: Florida Companies To Watch; Parkside Neighborhood Sticker Campaign, Enterprise Zone Incentives & Entrepreneurial Support
- ✓ Speaking Engagements: Community Foundation

Office Activities

- ✓ Website updates: Data collection included residential and commercial building permits, median home prices, vacancy rates, employment, lease information, regional economic indicator report. Updated calendar events, and social media sites. Updates to Charlotte Harbor CRA, Murdock Village CRA and Enterprise Zone webpages.

- ✓ Reviewed newspaper and posted articles relevant to the EDO on its website.
- ✓ Prepared Agenda, Minutes and coordinated meeting for the Charlotte Harbor CRA Advisory Committee's regular meeting and the Charlotte County Industrial Development Authority regular meeting.
- ✓ Reviewed and updated Charlotte County property listing profiles for on-line commercial property database.
- ✓ Continued to work with marketing firm to create and fine-tune marketing materials.
- ✓ Participated in Purchasing Department RFPs – Tourism Research and Customer Service Program.
- ✓ Participated in Community Development Director interviews.
- ✓ Attended Job Reclassification seminar.

Research and Policy Initiatives

- ✓ Continued to work on EDO policies, strategic plan and marketing.
- ✓ Continued working with local commercial land developers regarding certified sites.
- ✓ CoStar Real Estate searches.

Charlotte Harbor CRA

- ✓ Harbor Walk Project – Phase 1B - Held a kick-off meeting with FDOT on November 6 to review Phase 1B 30% plans and get input on final design and permitting phase. Phase 1A is ready for construction once FDOT provides approval.
- ✓ Advisory Committee – Facilitated the November 8 meeting of Charlotte Harbor CRA which included a discussion on the Comprehensive Plan and Zoning Code changes with Community Development and update on Bayshore Live Oak Park.
- ✓ Finalized scope of work with Johnson Engineering for the design of a sidewalk, street lighting and gateway along Parmely Street, the first project in the Trails and Wayfinding Project. Scope was approved by the CRA Advisory Committee and Administration. The work has begun.
- ✓ Coordinating the Hands Across the Harbor 6th Annual Event planning committee.

Murdock Village CRA

- ✓ Followed up with leads generated at the Select USA show to continue to market Charlotte County with specific focus on Murdock Village.

Parkside CRA

- ✓ Organized and attended various meetings both internally and at the community level including a meeting with staff from Community Services; Housing; Engineering. Provided county updates on various projects at the Parkside community meeting.
- ✓ Facilitated the monthly internal staff meeting with various departments that are involved in the Parkside projects to help coordinate activities in the area and finalized the list of projects.
- ✓ Launched the sticker campaign – “I want...in my neighborhood” at the Promenades Mall which included placement of the stickers, handling press releases, and interviewing with the media. Excellent response from the media and the public on the campaign.
- ✓ Participated in the November 13 Parkside Business Alliance program which included a presentation by In-Rel (owners of Promenades Mall) and tour of the vacant space being promoted.
- ✓ Temporary Welcome Sign was installed at two locations within the Parkside CRA prior to the Parkside Festival.
- ✓ Participated at the Parkside Festival – which included a booth with information on Parkside CRA and the “stickers” were available for public input. The completed stickers were placed on the storefront windows the following week.

Enterprise Zone

- ✓ Submitted the 1st Quarterly report for FY2014.
- ✓ Facilitated the property owners meeting on November 20 which included a table at the Chamber of Commerce monthly coffee and a training session with an Enterprise Zone expert.
- ✓ Answered three inquiries from the general public regarding the incentives of the EZ program.