

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

Inquires/Appointments/Successes

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

- ✓ 14 pending prospects.
- ✓ 5 appointments with realtors or business support partners.
- ✓ 4 research requests.

Meetings

- ✓ State Level
 - Florida Manufacturers Association
- ✓ Regional Level
 - Economic Development Regional Partnership
 - Suncoast Technology Forum Board
 - Southwest Florida Regional Planning Council regarding Entrepreneurial Support Systems
- ✓ 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
 - Whidden Park Community Meeting
 - Enterprise Charlotte Economic Council
 - Charlotte County Airport Authority
 - Charlotte County Chamber
 - Punta Gorda Economic Development Task Force
 - Tourism
 - Purchasing
 - Budget
 - Human Resources
 - Public Works
 - TAC MPO
 - 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: Arcadia Aerospace, Parkside Neighborland Sticker Campaign and Hands Across the Harbor

Office Activities

- ✓ Website updates: Data collection included residential and commercial building permits, median home prices, vacancy rates, employment, lease information, regional economic indicator report, climate updates, property maintenance. Updated calendar events, and social media sites. Updates to Charlotte Harbor CRA, Murdock Village CRA, Parkside 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 Whidden Park Community 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.
- ✓ Reviewed LeadCaster Weekly reports
- ✓ Job Assessment Evaluations were completed by staff.

Research and Policy Initiatives

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

Charlotte Harbor CRA

- ✓ Harbor Walk Project – Phase 1B consultant is reviewing 30% plans and scheduling meetings with FDOT to discuss specific project components such as the bridge structure and amendment to the air space agreement. Phase 1A is ready for construction once FDOT provides approval, which is expected on July 1, 2014. Consultant is reviewing bid specifications and making any necessary revisions based on updated FDOT specifications.
- ✓ Advisory Committee – Facilitated the December 9 meeting of Charlotte Harbor CRA which included a discussion on the Comprehensive Plan and Zoning Code changes with Community Development.
- ✓ Facilitated the December 4 Whidden Park Property Owners Meeting with discussion on the existing road and stormwater conditions.
- ✓ 30% of the survey work has been completed on the Parmely Street project.
- ✓ Coordinating the Hands Across the Harbor 6th Annual Event Planning Committee.

Murdock Village CRA

- ✓ Continued to follow-up with leads generated at the Select USA show and continued 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 meeting with staff from Community Services; Housing; Engineering. Provided County updates on various projects at the Parkside Community Meeting.
- ✓ Facilitated monthly internal staff meeting with various departments that are involved in Parkside projects to help coordinate activities in the area and finalized the list of projects.
- ✓ Completed the "I want...in my neighborhood" sticker campaign at the Promenades Mall which included placement of the stickers, handling press releases, and interviewing with the media. Over 600 responses were received. Information received was sent to the leasing agent and may help to generate more interest in the area.
- ✓ Coordinating the development of the agenda and backup materials for the Parkside CRA Workshop scheduled for January 21.

Enterprise Zone

- ✓ Assisted with completing one incentive application for reimbursement of sales tax for the purchase of business equipment.