

**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT
ACTIVITIES FOR THE MONTH OF
May, 2015**

Meetings

- ✓ State Level
 - Florida Economic Development Council
 - GrowFL
- ✓ Regional Level
 - Southwest Florida Workforce Development Board
 - Urban Land Institute – SW Florida
 - Southwest Florida Regional Planning CEDS Working Committee
 - Regional Economic Summit
- ✓ Local Level
 - Directors' Meetings, Staff Meetings
 - Meetings with Commissioners, Administration and the Attorney's Office
 - BCC Board Meetings, Workshops and PreAgenda Meetings
 - Strategic Focus Workshops
 - Charlotte County Airport Authority
 - Charlotte County Chamber
 - Punta Gorda Business & Economic Development Task Force
 - Budget
 - Human Services
 - Public Works/Engineering
 - Charlotte County Community Development
 - Charlotte County Community Services
 - City of Punta Gorda
 - Punta Gorda Chamber of Commerce
 - Charlotte Harbor CRA Advisory Committee
 - Charlotte County Industrial Development Authority
 - Charlotte County Sheriff's Office
 - Charlotte County Schools
 - Wellness @ Work Committee
 - Employee Recognition Committee
 - Health Insurance Committee
 - Emergency Operation Center – Hurricane Preparedness

Presentations/Newspapers/Magazines

Speaker at: EDO updates Market Watch Regional Economic Development Summit and Leadership Charlotte. Blast E-mails: EDO Newsletter; Press Release: Harbor Walk Phase 1A Begins Public Access Restricted During Construction.

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, and property maintenance. Updated calendar events, and social media sites. Updated the Charlotte Harbor CRA, Parkside CRA and Enterprise Zone webpages.
- ✓ Reviewed newspaper and posted articles relevant to the EDO on its website.
- ✓ Research assistance for business recruitment efforts and general demographics.
- ✓ Reviewed/updated Charlotte County property listing profiles for EDO and Enterprise Florida site.
- ✓ Continued to work with marketing firm to fine-tune and distribute marketing materials.
- ✓ Reviewed LeadCaster Weekly reports.
- ✓ Coordinated the 4 part series on land issues in Southwest Florida as program chair of the ULI Southwest Florida District Council. The final session featuring Charlotte County was held on May 15. Providing input on the Legislative Wrap Up session scheduled for June 20.
- ✓ Reviewed and continued updating map showing available properties in the ECAP area.

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 1A – Construction commenced on May 18, 2015. Progress meetings will be held each Friday. First meeting held on May 29 no issues to date. Attended the May 13 onsite meeting with FPL to discuss guide wire replacement. Continued to work with Public Works to coordinate construction activities with contractor and CEI. No Trespassing signs and fencing to secure the docks ordered. Construction signage posted. Project completion scheduled for March 2016.
- ✓ Harbor Walk Phase 1B – 90% plans expected to be submitted to Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) by June 5. Pre-application meetings held with Southwest Florida Water Management District and Army Corps of Engineers. Permit applications submitted. Request for additional funding submitted to FDOT and RESTORE application updated to request funding for Phase 1B. Coordinating with Public Works and Kimley-Horn (KH). KH to complete the plans and submittals to FDOT.
- ✓ Facilitated the May 4 Charlotte Harbor CRA Advisory Committee meeting. Community Services provided an update on Bayshore Park and the review of the Land Development Code commenced.
- ✓ Continued to oversee the Johnson Engineering contract to design Parmely Street. 90% Plans submitted to Public Works and Utility Departments to get final approval. 4-way stop will be initiated when project is constructed.
- ✓ Facilitated the May 13th Annual Hands Across the Harbor meeting. January 30, 2016 is the date for the 8th Annual event and the committee has voted to revise the program to include a ½ marathon and 5K run/walk. The committee has decided to make the event “green”.
- ✓ Coordinating with DMJones Landscape Architects to complete a site rendering of a US41 vacant site to assist with marketing to potential developers. Developing scope of work for Riverwalk Area.

Murdock Village CRA

- ✓ Continued to provide information to interested parties regarding Murdock Village and update website to help market the area.
- ✓ Continued to provide information to the School Board regarding the 35 acre site in Murdock Village.

Parkside CRA

- ✓ Harbor Boulevard Enhancement Project – coordinating with Public Works and Real Estate Services to finalize design plans and obtain easements for Harbor Boulevard that will include undergrounding of utilities.
- ✓ Attended the May 13 Team Parkside Board Meeting and the May 21 Team Parkside Community meeting to give an update on County activities and assist with the Visual Preference Survey.
- ✓ Attended the May 20 Team Parkside Housing Committee meeting. Team Parkside will follow up with contacting property owners that attended the April meeting.
- ✓ Continued to coordinate with Community Development staff to present the Revitalization Plan and draft Land Development Regulations (LDR) in late 2015. Visual preference survey is completed and will be available for public input in June.
- ✓ Coordinated with CCU regarding the submittal of a CDBG application for infrastructure improvements. Parkside CRA approved the expenditure of \$1.2 million for multi-use paths, street lighting, and landscaping as a component of the grant application on April 28. The second public hearing was held May 26 and the grant application is due in June. Johnson Engineering was hired to prepare construction plans for the Multi-Use Trail system as a component of the grant. Plans must be submitted to permitting agencies by June 15. Coordinating with Public Works to have work completed.
- ✓ West Tarpon/Ambrose Multi-use Path – Johnson Engineering has been hired to design the multi-use path and amenities along this segment. Coordinated with Public Works to negotiate contract.

Enterprise Zone (EZ)

- ✓ Continued to meet with property owner interested in submitting an EZ application. Continued to provide information on the EZ to potential clients and investors.
- ✓ Prepared and submitted the 3rd quarter report of EZ activities to the State.