

**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT  
ACTIVITIES FOR THE MONTH OF  
February, 2016**

**Meetings**

- ✓ State Level
  - Enterprise Florida
  - Florida Economic Development Council
- ✓ Regional Level
  - Workforce Development
  - Southwest Florida Market Watch Program
  - FPL Solar Farm Groundbreaking in Manatee County
  - CEDS Committee Quarterly Meeting
- ✓ Local Level
  - Directors' Meetings, Staff Meeting
  - BCC Meetings, Workshops & PreAgenda Meetings
  - Meetings with Commissioners, Administration and the Attorney's Office
  - Charlotte County Airport Authority
  - Budget
  - Purchasing
  - Public Works/Engineering
  - Real Estate Services
  - Charlotte County Community Development
  - Charlotte County Community Services
  - CAPRA (Commission for Accreditation of Park and Recreation Agencies) kick off meeting hosted by Community Services
  - City of Punta Gorda
  - Punta Gorda Chamber of Commerce
  - Team Punta Gorda
  - Charlotte County Schools
  - Florida SouthWestern State College
  - Charlotte Harbor CRA Advisory Committee
  - ECEC/EDO Strategic Plan Retreat
  - TAC

**Presentations & Press Releases**

- ✓ Participated at the Charlotte County Chamber of Commerce Business Expo
- ✓ Charlotte Technical Job Fair
- ✓ Entrepreneurial Support – EDO Update
- ✓ Commercial Realtors Presentations – EDO Update
- ✓ CDBIA – EDO Update

**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, Murdock Village, Parkside CRA, and Hands Across the Harbor webpages.
- ✓ Reviewed newspaper and posted articles relevant to the EDO on its website.
- ✓ Research assistance for business recruitment efforts and general demographics.
- ✓ Continued to work with marketing firm to fine-tune and distribute marketing materials.
- ✓ Reviewed LeadCaster Weekly reports.
- ✓ Reviewed website analytics.
- ✓ County knowledge base training.

**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 and progress continues. Attended progress meetings and completed follow-up as necessary. Continued to work with Public Works to coordinate construction activities with contractor and CEI. Change orders processed to extend the construction time period due to rain delays and FPL conflicts that have been resolved. Project Completion now anticipated in May 2016.
- ✓ Harbor Walk Phase 1B – 100% Plans final approval received by FDOT. SWFWMD, ACOE and other federal agencies continued to review permit applications. LAP Agreement approved by the BCC on February 23, 2016. Coordinated with Administration regarding funding opportunities to complete the project. Lease Agreement pending FDOT approval and permits are being reviewed by federal and state agencies. Coordinated with Public Works and Kimley Horn to continue to move the project forward.
- ✓ Facilitated the 8th Annual Hands Across the Harbor Wrap Up meeting and coordinated planning efforts to market the 9th Annual Hands Across the Harbor event scheduled for January 28, 2017.
- ✓ Facilitated the January 4th Charlotte Harbor CRA Advisory Committee meeting, reviewing Land Development Code changes.
- ✓ DMJones Landscape Architects are working on developing site renderings of the Riverwalk area adjacent to the harbor and US41 to assist with marketing the area to potential developers.
- ✓ Coordinated with Community Development to prepare the revisions to the Charlotte Harbor Land Development Code.
- ✓ Provided an update at the February 3 joint meeting of Parks and Recreation and Beaches and Shores on the Harbor Walk project.
- ✓ Provided updated FDOT enhancement grant applications to the MPO for the US41 Gateway Study and the Trails and Wayfinding projects in Charlotte Harbor.

### **Parkside CRA**

- ✓ Harbor Boulevard Enhancement Project – coordinated with Public Works and Real Estate Services to finalize the design plans and obtain easements for Harbor Blvd that will include undergrounding of utilities.
- ✓ Continued to coordinate with Community Development staff to draft Land Development Regulations (LDR) to implement the draft Revitalization Plan.
- ✓ Attended the February 17 Team Parkside Board Meeting and provided an update on projects.
- ✓ Coordinated with Utilities to implement the CDBG grant award. The grant award is for \$750,000. Parkside CRA will receive \$375,000 to complete a 10 ft. multi-use path and landscaping along Gertrude and Aaron.
- ✓ McGuire Park Renovations – Provided input on the design plans. Next public input meeting is scheduled for March 17.
- ✓ Coordinated with Public Works on developing the design plans for West Tarpon/Ambrose. Charlotte County Utilities' improvements began in January 2016.
- ✓ Coordinated with Solid Waste Department to remove landscape debris throughout Parkside. Solid Waste coordinated with Waste Management to complete a sweep of the area.
- ✓ Developed cost estimates and options for the private property on Gertrude with input from Public Works.
- ✓ Participated in the event planning of Fun Day Sunday @ Promenades Mall scheduled for April 10 from Noon to 5 p.m. The event will be sponsored by Team Parkside to highlight changes in the area including the new property owners and the proposed plans for the mall.
- ✓ Submitted an FDOT enhancement grant to MPO for the construction of an 8 foot multi-use path on Elkcam.

### **Murdock Village CRA**

- ✓ Continued to provide information and facilitate discussions with interested parties regarding Murdock Village.
- ✓ Coordinated with County Departments on several items related to future development in the area.