



OFFICE OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & BUSINESS PARTNERSHIPS: ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

ALIGNING BOARD PRIORITIES WITH OPTIMIZED RESOURCES

Mission Statement

To guide the County's economic development efforts in coordination with the private sector and community stakeholders by fostering fair and open competition, conducting extensive outreach to assist vendors in navigating and competing in today's marketplace, and leveraging existing resources to maximize the infusion of financial capital into the local community.

Strategic Initiatives/Support Highlights

Economy

- The Board adopted the 2012 Job Creation Action Plan, created in conjunction with economic development partners. The Plan includes 36 recommendations to enhance the County's economic activities, which are now being implemented.
- The Board conceptually approved a lending guarantee program to enhance access to capital for small businesses seeking to physically expand their facility. The County hopes to combine its resources with the City of Tallahassee to implement this program.
- Partnered with the City, Economic Development Council, Innovation Park, FSU, FAMU, and TCC to develop the "Framework for Sustainable Economic Development" to guide long-term economic investment through the extension of the one-cent infrastructure surtax.
- Evaluated the feasibility study for the proposed sports complex, in partnership with representatives from the KCCI.

Contact Us

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PEOPLE FOCUSED. PERFORMANCE DRIVEN.

ADVOCATING FOR LEON COUNTY'S ECONOMIC INTERESTS

- Leon County continues to focus on job creation and investment in the community:
 - » Created 858 jobs through capital infrastructure improvement projects, including the Public Safety Complex, branch libraries, stormwater improvements, and transportation improvements.
 - » Since their inception, invested over \$15.6 million in the Frenchtown/Southside Community Redevelopment Area (CRA) and the Downtown CRA, which were formed to revitalize downtown and areas to the north and south of downtown. Construction of the following major projects was partially funded through these CRAs: the Marriott Residence Inn (at the intersection of Gaines St. and Railroad Ave.); the Aloft Hotel (on the former Floridan Hotel site, on the northwest corner of Call and Monroe Streets); the Alliance Center (S. Monroe St., between Park and E. College Avenues); College Town; Goodbread Hills (nearly 100 low and very low-income apartments); sidewalks, landscaping, streetscapes, and stormwater ponds; and Cascade Park.
 - » Continued to support the creation of over 500 jobs through the Qualified Targeted Industry Program's support of the following businesses: Red Hills Surgery Center, SunnyLand Solar LLC and SolarSink LLC, ACS State and Local Solutions, Event Photography Group, Inc., and Bing Energy.
- Continued to work with the Leon County Sales Tax Committee to enhance the "Framework for Sustainable Economic Development" for long-term economic investment through the extension of the one-cent infrastructure surtax.
- Staffed the Economic Development and Regulatory Review Team, comprised of interdepartmental personnel and community partners, to develop and monitor the progress of the 2012 Job



Did You Know

Leon County has invested over \$15.6 million in the Frenchtown/Southside Community Redevelopment Area (CRA) and the Downtown CRA, since their inception, to revitalize downtown and areas to the north and south of downtown.

Capital Projects and Job Creation (FY12 & FY13)

Over the past two years, the Board has taken strategic steps to focus resources on maintaining jobs, investing in the community, and creating local infrastructure improvements. The Board realized the current state of the economy, particularly the local construction industry, and accelerated the construction schedule for many projects utilizing existing cash reserves. These steps include committing \$93.3 million towards the following capital projects:

PROJECTS	PROJECT COSTS	JOBS CREATED
Public Safety Complex <i>(includes City and State Funding)</i>	\$45.0 million	414
Branch Libraries	\$4.6 million	43
Stormwater Improvements	\$14.2 million	130
Transportation Improvements	\$29.5 million	271
FY12 (Actual) & FY13 (Projected)		
Total Spending	\$93.3 million	858

Based on analysis performed by the Economic Development Council, for every \$1 million spent, 9.2 jobs are created; therefore, the job creation from the capital project investments, including the Public Safety Complex, is 858 jobs.