### OFFICE OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & BUSINESS PARTNERSHIPS:

## **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**



ALIGNING BOARD PRIORITIES WITH OPTIMIZED RESOURCES

PEOPLE FOCUSED. PERFORMANCE DRIVEN.

#### **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

- Staffing Imagine Tallahassee activities, through a public/private partnership, to conduct community visioning exercises and develop a proposal for the economic development portion of the infrastructure sales tax.
- Entered into a "Town and Gown" partnership with Florida State University, Florida A&M University, Tallahassee Community College, and the City of Tallahassee, to promote collaboration and communication.
- Hosted two Entrepreneurial Resources Stakeholder Forums, bringing more than 40 community leaders and entrepreneurs into a think-tank environment during each event, to foster business growth and stimulate entrepreneurship.
- Evaluating the creation of an urban business incubator to house and provide business support to start-up ventures.
- Coordinated the expansion of Entrepreneur Month for November 2013 to attract greater community participation beyond the universities.

### **Contact Us**

(850) 606-5300 www.LeonCountyFL.gov/EDBP

## ADVOCATING FOR LEON COUNTY'S ECONOMIC INTERESTS

- Leon County continues to focus on job creation and investment in the community:
  - » Created 833 jobs through capital infrastructure improvement projects, including the Public Safety Complex, stormwater improvements, and transportation improvements.
  - » Continued to support the creation of over 600 jobs through the Qualified Targeted Industry (QTI) Program's support of the following businesses: Red Hills Surgery Center, Sunny Land Solar Sink LLC, ACS State and Local Solutions, Event Photography Group, Inc., and Kaye Scholer LLP.
- Kaye Scholer, an international law firm brought to Leon County with QTI support, is anticipated to bring over 100 new, highpaying jobs.
- Leon County has invested more than \$16.9 million in the Frenchtown/ Southside Community Redevelopment Agency (CRA) and the Downtown CRA, since their inception, to revitalize downtown and areas to the north and south of downtown. Construction of the Aloft Hotel, the Alliance Center, and Cascades Park were funded in part through these CRAs, as is new construction surrounding the Gaines Street District, including: College Town (a mix of apartments, entertainment and retail); The Deck (apartments and street-level retail); and The District and The Catalyst (both student apartments).

 The County engaged in a public/private partnership with Imagine Tallahassee to conduct visioning exercises under the guidance of a national consulting firm. Imagine Tallahassee will ultimately provide its proposal for future economic investment in our community to the Sales Tax Committee.



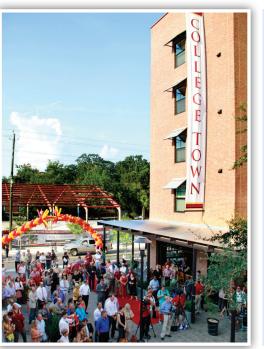
### Did You Know

Leon County is working with local entrepreneurs and community partners to convert a vacant warehouse into an urban incubator that will catalyze entrepreneurship and job creation in our community.



Over the past few years, the Board has taken strategic steps to focus resources on maintaining jobs, investing in the community, and creating local infrastructure improvements. These steps include committing \$90.5 million towards the following capital projects:

| towards the following capital projects: |                  |                 |
|---|------------------|-----------------|
| Project<br>Categories                   | Project<br>Costs | Jobs<br>Created |
| Culture & Recreation                    | \$8,921,219      | 82              |
| General Government                      | \$13,364,562     | 123             |
| Health & Safety                         | \$15,935,118     | 147             |
| Physical Environment                    | \$21,650,448     | 199             |
| Transportation                          | \$30,642,790     | 282             |
| Total FY13 & FY14<br>Projected Spending | \$90,514,137     | 833             |



College Town Grand Opening