

## **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL**

A meeting was held of the Indian River County (IRC) Economic Development Council (EDC) on Tuesday, June 19, 2018 at 2:00 p.m. in Conference Room B1-501 of the County Administration Building B, 1800 27<sup>th</sup> St., Vero Beach, Florida. Note: You may hear an audio of the meeting and review the agenda and meeting minutes on the IRC website - [www.ircgov.com/Boards/EDC/2018](http://www.ircgov.com/Boards/EDC/2018) .

### **EDC Members Present**

Brian Bauer, CareerSource Research Coast  
Beth Mitchell, Sebastian River Area Chamber of Commerce  
Peter Robinson, Local Developer  
Casey Lunceford, Indian River State College  
Bob Auwaerter, Town of Indian River Shores  
Linda Kinchen, City of Sebastian  
Jim Funk, Local Manufacturing Industry  
William Penney, Banking Industry  
Bruce Redus, BCC Appointee  
Linda Schlitt-Gonzalez, Member-At-Large  
Joe Idlette III, Gifford Community  
Karl Zimmermann, Member-At-Large  
Peter D. O'Bryan, Commissioner District 4, Non-Voting Commission Liaison

### **EDC Members Absent**

Penny Chandler, IRC Chamber of Commerce  
Val Zudans, City of Vero Beach (COVB)  
Laura Zorc, School Board of Indian River County  
Sara Savage, City of Fellsmere  
Paul Knapp, Town of Orchid  
Chad Olson, Local Tourist Industry  
John Dyer, Local Industry  
Todd Howder, Member-At-Large  
Tim Borden, Real Estate Appointee  
Vacant, Local Agriculture Industry

### **Others Present**

Debbie Mayfield, FL Senate  
Susan Adams, Indian River County District 1 Commissioner  
Helene Caseltine, IRC Chamber of Commerce  
Erin Gillespie, Deputy Chief of Staff of the FL Dept of Economic Opportunities  
Alexia Dawes, Deputy Legislative Affairs Director, FL DEO  
Grey Dodge, Policy Director, FL DEO  
William Parsons, Enterprise Florida  
Noah Powers, Town Manager, Town of Orchid  
Jason Nunnemaker, City Manager, City of Fellsmere  
Bob McPartlan, City of Sebastian  
Linda Morgan  
Miranda Hawker, FL Health Department  
Julianne Price, FL Health Department  
Christi Shields, School District of Indian River County (SDIRC)  
Angelia Perry

Ruth Stanbridge, Indian River County (IRC) Historian  
Carolyn  
Alma Miller  
Mark Wade, Parabel USA  
Christy Treasure Coast Food Bank  
Ed Barenborg  
Kate Cotner, IRC Attorney's Office  
Eric Menger, COVB Regional Airport Manager  
Freddie Woolfork  
Stephanie Heidt—TCRPC  
Ardra Rigby  
Carolyn Nelson  
Teddy Floyd, IRC Sheriff's Office  
Larry & Arlene, FDOT, conference call-in

### **IRC Staff**

Bill Schutt, Senior Economic Development Planner  
Sasan Rohan, Chief, Long Range Planning  
Tina Cournoyer, Commissioner Assistant, Recording Secretary

### **Call to Order**

Chairman Bauer called the meeting to order at 2:10 p.m. and welcomed our guests.

Ms. Gillespie provided an overview of the 12 Counties initiative and why this Roundtable Discussion was requested by the State. She asked everyone to pick up the flyer entitled "The Florida Turnaround Story Under Governor Rick Scott," which is on file in the Commission Office. She explained after analysis, 12 counties in Florida were chosen for closer examination and possible state aid to improve their economic position. Indian River County was one of the 12 selected.

Senator Mayfield thanked everyone for attending and participating in this important discussion.

A brief around-the-room self-introduction was accomplished. In addition to the local participants, there were several from State agencies: Steven-Visit Florida, Mike-FL Department of Law Enforcement, Rob-FL Housing Finance Corporation, Reginald-FL Dept of Business Regulation, Craig Benner- FL Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles, William Arnold-Insurance Regulation, Austin-FL Dept of State, John-Dept of Elder Affairs, Grace-Dept of Agriculture, William Parsons-Enterprise FL

Mr. Schutt provided some background information using powerpoint slides, which are on file in the Commission office. He reviewed the history of the target industry analysis as well as other economic initiatives offered by IRC.

Ms. Caseltine presented information using powerpoint slides, which are on file in the Commission office. She reviewed the unemployment status and the Economic Development website.

**Florida Department of Economic Opportunity (DEO) Roundtable Discussion—**  
Alexia Dawes, Legislative and Cabinet Affairs Deputy Director, and Grey Dodge, Policy Director

Mr. Dodge explained how the afternoon would proceed. He said the end goal was for FL DOE to return to their office with the top 4-5 ideas as identified and voted upon by the attendees at the Roundtable.

All attendees at the meeting were invited to provide input regarding what he/she felt was a barrier to economic development in IRC. Among much discussion, Ms. Dawes wrote all the ideas on butcher paper on the wall. A 15-minute break was announced. During the break, all attendees were invited to vote for their top 3 by placing a sticker by the item. The ideas and their accompanying votes were as follows:

Site Development (improve speed of buildings to market)	10
Capitalize on Opportunity Zones (a new federal initiative)	1
Affordable Workforce Housing (rentals at fair market value)	25
Reentry of Prisoners to the Workforce	0
Workforce Training (manufacturing, trades, soft skills)	13
Support Apprenticeships	4
Support Regional Collaboration	1
Transportation to Work	4
Improve Health Outcomes (food insecurity, healthy communities)	4
Mental Health & Substance Abuse	8
Childcare	1
Infrastructure (sewer, speed bumps)	2
Monitor IR Lagoon	5
Support Tourism	0
Streamline Grant Application Process	4
Support Small & Minority-owned Businesses	4
Support and Mentor Youth	4

**Other EDC matters**

Final words were given by several attendees and state partners. Comments can be heard/viewed on the meeting recording.

Ms. Dawes recapped by reviewing the final results of voting. She said they would take the top concerns to Tallahassee and use them to create a road map for economic improvement in IRC.

**Adjournment**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned **at 4:30 p.m.**

**Next meeting date: July 17, 2018 at 3:30 p.m.**