

ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY ADVISORY COUNCIL AUGUST 22, 2018 MEETING MINUTES

Members Present: Mike Gill, Joe Marotti, Barbara Revels, Jim Ulsamer, Frank Zedar

Members Absent: Bob Cahill, Greg Federline, Donald O'Brien

Staff Present: Helga van Eckert, Executive Director
Katrina Austin, Project Manager
Lili Tuggle-Weir, Marketing Specialist

Call to Order: Mr. Gill, Interim Chairman, called the meeting to order at 9:15 A.M.

1. Roll Call: A silent roll call was taken.

2. Approval of Meeting Minutes: July 25, 2018 - Adopted

3. Executive Director Report

Ms. van Eckert asked Ms. Austin to report on the Florida Jobs Growth and Infrastructure Grant Flagler Central Commerce Blvd. grant application being submitted to Enterprise Florida and the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity.

- a. Ms. Austin summarized the grant application and reasons for applying for the grant as follows:
 - \$3.4M was secured by the City of Bunnell through a federal grant and private donation
 - The original grant allowed for the planning and design of the road.
 - Private donations included the land for the right-of-way
 - The County needs the grant to provide access to land that is already zoned light industrial
 - There is a deficit of appropriately zoned privately owned land to attract manufacturing
 - The County Commissioners have approved the submittal of the grant
- b. Ms. van Eckert summarized the two grants being applied for to complete a 100,000 square foot building at the Flagler Executive Airport as follows:
 - Flagler County qualifies for an EDA Disaster Recovery Grant based on the impact from Hurricanes Matthew and Irma and the closing of the Sea Ray plant
 - The EDA grant amount requested is 80% of the total cost with a 20% match
 - The building will have thirty foot high ceilings, will be tilt-up construction and constructed in a way that it can be divided to allow for multiple occupants
 - Total cost of the project is \$10.4M or \$104 per square foot
 - The second grant, the Florida Jobs Growth Grant is ready to be submitted
 - The Jobs Growth Grant amount requested is \$5.2M and will be used to supplement the EDA grant for the 20% match amount or to make up the difference if the EDA grant award is less than the 80% requested
 - Submittal of both grants has been approved by the BOCC
- c. Ms. van Eckert will travel to New Jersey and Connecticut on a recruitment mission to speak with businesses identified by Flor Group, a strategic growth and development company that identifies and vets businesses interested in relocating.
- d. New construction – The spec building is ready for the roof to be added and the Gioia Sails building is near completion.
- e. Sea Ray Closing – Ms. van Eckert has been in contact with the real estate team. Brunswick will put the property up for sale pending an appraisal

4. Council Comments

Ms. Revels spoke about a client that is constructing a new building for their company of US 1.

5. Public Comments

Bob Alex asked if Gioia Sails' business has been impacted by the closing of Sea Ray.

Ms. van Eckert stated that Gioia Sails isn't reliant on Sea Ray's business. The company has many customers and they are continuing to grow.

6. Partner Presentations

Jeff Sheffield, Executive Director for the North Florida TPO

Mr. Sheffield addressed the council with a presentation about the North Florida Smart Region.

Subject matter included:

- How smart technologies and strategies can create a better transportation system to improve the region's economic competitiveness, sustainability and quality of life.
- The Intelligent Transportation System (ITS) Master Plan
- Path Forward 2040 Long-Range Transportation Plan (LRTP)
- Connect to Jax (C2JAX) – A program directed at establishing Jacksonville as a Smart City
- Smart Region Master Plan – Regional Vision
- Smart Region objectives
 - Eliminate Fatalities
 - Improve Travel Time Reliability
 - Reduce Greenhouse Gas Emissions
 - Provide Ladders of Opportunity
 - Grow North Florida
- Smart Region Project Categories
 - Local Intelligence
 - Electrification
 - Services
 - Data Management System

Mr. Sheffield described smart transportation network projects currently being deployed in the City of Jacksonville to include:

- Smart Pedestrian Crossings
- Pedestrian Avoidance Systems
- Street Flooding Warning Systems
- Gate Notification and Parking Systems at JAXPORT
- Rail Crossing Notification Systems
- Greenwave Systems
- Automated Vehicle Systems
- Solar Road Pilot
- Smart Lighting Systems

Mr. Sheffield further described the North Florida Smart Region Vision to include different types of alternatives to the way the city currently manages transportation.

7. Next Meeting: September 26, 2018

8. Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 10:19 A.M.