



NORTHEAST FLORIDA REGIONAL COUNCIL
Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS)
Project Subcommittee Meeting
June 3, 2009

Project Subcommittee

The third meeting of the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) Project Subcommittee was held on Wednesday, June 3, 2009, at 9:00 am, at the Northeast Florida Regional Council, 6850 Belfort Oaks Place, Jacksonville, Florida 32216.

9:10 - Introductions

9:15 - Discussion

- Commuter Rail – downtown Jacksonville to Yulee

Amtrak line from Miami to Jacksonville is coming on-line; JTA commuter rail study is in Phase 1; JTA commuter rail study is phased by geography; Clay County has a 30 acre commuter rail site;

- Cecil Commerce Center

Additional funding for right-of-way improvements, stormwater & other infrastructure

- Outer Beltway

Expand support for the outer beltway

- TECO gas

Gas line to be extended to the east side of the St. Johns River

Non-program or project specific discussion was given to: "finding the right bucket for projects"; updating the targeted industries; and referencing specific workforce studies (*Note: Program / Project sheet revised to reflect this discussion. See attached*)

- Jacksonville Journey

Remove from project list; make more general

- Regional fiber optics

- Port expansion

- School / Corporate Sponsors

Other regions have schools paired up with corporate sponsors; the Region needs to increase business and education partnerships;

- Projects to address at-risk youth

Utilization of "direct to career" programs

- Regional Leadership programs

Include as project

Discussion was given to inviting CBD to the next CEDS meeting.

Discussion was given to removing "former" from military personnel (Draft Program and Projects, pg. 1, program)

- Strategic Planning

Create Strategic Planning as a goal

- Add "Green / Alternative Energy" and "Target Industries" under the Strategic Planning Goal
- Attract / keep creative class
- Grants / Assistance to employers who retrofit buildings for energy efficiency / alternative energy
- Public / Private partnerships for grant dollars to "go green"

Discussion was given to: strategies to make solar energy conversion affordable; focusing alternative energy discussion to biomass – *sludge residue*

- Goal 1 "Improve Education in Northeast Florida"

Should Goal 1 be changed to "Workforce Development"

- Water / sewer availability throughout the region
- Downtown / infill redevelopment (potable water and sewer update)

Supporting Main Streets through infrastructure upgrades

Discussion was given to the creation of more dense, mixed-use "new town" development, incorporating jobs and housing balance

- Regional authority responsible for offering no-interest loans for speculative development (revolving loan fund)
- Regional "Industrial Development Authority" (IDA)

An IDA would include revolving loan funds

- Intermodal freight yard in Duval County
- Port related infrastructure expansion in all Counties within the region; channel dredging for port expansion
- Region-wide "Public Relations Plan"

Develop regional branding

10:45 - Adjourn