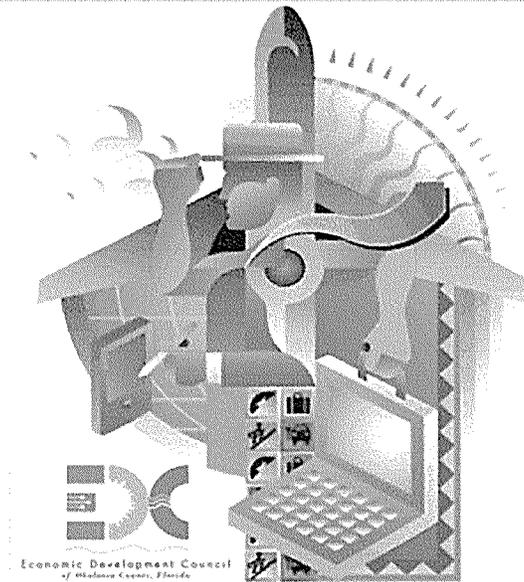


2012

Summary of Activities



Prepared For

CITY OF FORT WALTON BEACH, FLORIDA

Prepared by

The Economic Development council
of Okaloosa county, Florida

P.O. Box 4097, Fort Walton Beach, Florida, 32549

Core Values: Integrity, Respect, Accountability, & Performance Excellence

The Economic Development Council of Okaloosa County; Florida is a non-profit 501(c)(6) private-public partnership organization committed to creating and sustaining an environment supportive of job retention and creation through business development services.

MISSION STATEMENT

Maintain and support a quality-of-place community that offers leading technology diversification, superior lifestyle, and boundless opportunity for Okaloosa County through existing industry retention and expansion, workforce development, and target-industry recruiting.

OBJECTIVES

- Retain, expand and diversify the existing economic base.
- Assist targeted industry clusters with expansion, international trade and exportation.
- Promote technology-based economic development in STEM industries.
- Collaborate to ensure a high-skilled, diversified and available workforce.
- Promote and support the economic contributions by local military resources.
- Assist in the development and promotion of quality-of-place.

TARGETED INDUSTRIES

- Aviation and Aerospace
- Bio-Medical Technology
- Electronics Design and Manufacturing
- Engineering Services
- Information Technology
- Medical and Health Sciences
- Precision Machining and Metal Fabrication
- Professional Business Services

CORE VALUES

- Integrity
- Respect
- Accountability
- Performance Excellence

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Pursuant to the EDC's mission and objectives, the organization was successful in accomplishing a multitude of goals during Fiscal Year 2012. It is note worthy to acknowledge that these accomplishments were achieved during the nation's Great Recession and following the Deepwater Horizon tragedy that devastated the coastal communities of the Gulf Coast in 2010. An overview of these accomplishments is provided on Page 3.

Business retention, expansion and attraction initiatives for the City of Fort Walton are explained beginning on page 4. Specific business projects are outlined on Page 5. And the EDC's path forward is demonstrated on Page 6.



Stimulating Job Growth for Okaloosa County

Accomplishments for FY 2012

- Assisted new and expanded companies in creating 610 new jobs
- Assisted new and expanded companies for retention of over 200 jobs
- Activated 35 new projects in addition to working ongoing FY11 projects
 - Projected Capital Investment - \$112,375,612
 - Projected Job Growth – 3,217
 - Conducted 11 site tour visits with consultants and decision-makers
- Expanded Business Incubator at the Fort Walton Beach W.E. Comb Campus
 - Two new STEM industry start-up companies
- Expanded Crestview's State Enterprise Zone yielding new job opportunities for local residents
- Technology Coast Manufacturing & Engineering Network (TeCMEN)
 - Established Unmanned Air & Ground Vehicle Working Group
 - No-Cost Incumbent Training Program Provided
 - \$64,365 value; 5 company participants; 21 employees
- Industry Recruitment, Retention and Expansion Fund Grant Program
 - Millions of IRREF funds secured for new and expanding companies
- Enhanced County and Municipal Collaboration
 - Brownfield Revitalization Promotion
 - Downtown CRA Development and Support
 - Enterprise Zone Promotion
 - Streamlining Regulatory Processes
 - Incentive Options Workshops
 - Incubator Development Education
 - Demographic & Statistical Information Provided
 - Federal Funding Opportunities Assistance
- Established Membership Retention and Expansion Committee
 - Focus Areas: Public/Government; Development/Real Estate; Aerospace/Defense; Services; and Financial.
 - Progress reports provided at Policy Board meetings.
 - Reviewed and enhanced member benefits for optimum return on investment
 - Established new EDC website
- Partnerships and Collaboration
 - Autonomous Vehicle Center Initiative
 - County-Wide Six Pillars Community™ Strategic Planning Initiative
 - Building Industry Association of Okaloosa and Walton Counties
 - Chambers of Commerce
 - Emerald Coast Association of Realtors
 - Space Florida on FAA six test sites for UVC
 - Florida's Great Northwest
 - Enterprise Florida Inc.
 - Office of Economic Development and Engagement
 - Department of Economic Opportunity
 - Florida Defense Alliance
 - Florida Defense Support Task Force
 - RESTORE Act Committee
 - Educational Institutions
 - Municipal Collaborations
 - Airbus Competitive Strategic Planning Committee

EDC BUSINESS RETENTION, EXPANSION AND ATTRACTION INITIATIVES

Last year the EDC completed a two-part training program in partnership with Florida's Great Northwest, the University of West Florida and the Workforce Development Board to provide incumbent employee training

- Free training total value: \$146,900
- Training included Program Management, Capability Maturity Model Integration (CMMI), Negotiations, and Technical Supervisory Skills
- 14 companies requested participation
 - 7 Fort Walton Beach companies participated
 - Alpha Data
 - Boeing
 - Fort Walton Machining
 - GSC Systems, Inc.
 - InDyne, Inc.
 - J&P Khamken Industries
 - Technical Services Laboratory

This year, following another needs assessment, the EDC completed a Six Sigma training curriculum in partnership with University of West Florida and Workforce Florida

- Free training total value: \$64,365
- 5 companies requested participation
 - 2 Fort Walton Beach companies participated
 - GSC Systems, Inc.
 - J&P Khamken Industries, Inc.

The second round to this incumbent training partnership provided Lean Manufacturing Certificates; *preserving value with less work.*

- Free training value: \$51,000
- 4 companies participated
 - 2 Fort Walton Beach Companies
 - GSC Systems, Inc.
 - J&P Khamken Industries, Inc.

INNOVATION CENTER, TECHNOLOGY-BASED BUSINESS INCUBATOR

Continued management of Okaloosa County's only business incubator, located adjacent to the City of Fort Walton Beach's Commerce and Technology Park, to assist in small business development in the targeted industries.

CURRENT DEVELOPING BUSINESSES

- J&P Khamken
- National Energy U.S.A.

GRADUATED BUSINESSES

- Government Support Jobs
- Grey Aviation

ESTABLISHED PROJECTS IN 2012

The State of Florida provides protection to economic development activity/businesses via Florida Statute 288.075 Confidentiality of Records.

- Project FWB: 60 new jobs, NDA
- Project Springfield: 200 new jobs, NDA

ACTIVELY ENGAGED PROJECTS

- **Project Bulls Eye** – Business attraction. Light manufacturing and retail. Approximately 100 jobs. Considering Commerce & Technology Park.
- **Project TigerFire** – Business expansion; 90 new jobs. Capital Investment is over \$12 million.
- **Project Automation** – Manufacturing company looking to lease 30,000 SF of office, warehouse, small assembly area and manufacturing. Approximately 20 new jobs with an annual wage of \$65,000. Capital investment projected at \$160,000.
- **Project Grant** – Company retention of 7 employees and expansion of 10. Approximate wages \$48,500.
- **Project Aero Lead** – The aerospace/defense client requested 10,000 SF of Class A office space; jobs TBD
- **Project Soul** – New business attraction. Engineering and manufacturing. Jobs TBD
- **Project Solar Heating** – New business attraction. Solar hot water heating systems.

EDC
Objectives

Create
Jobs

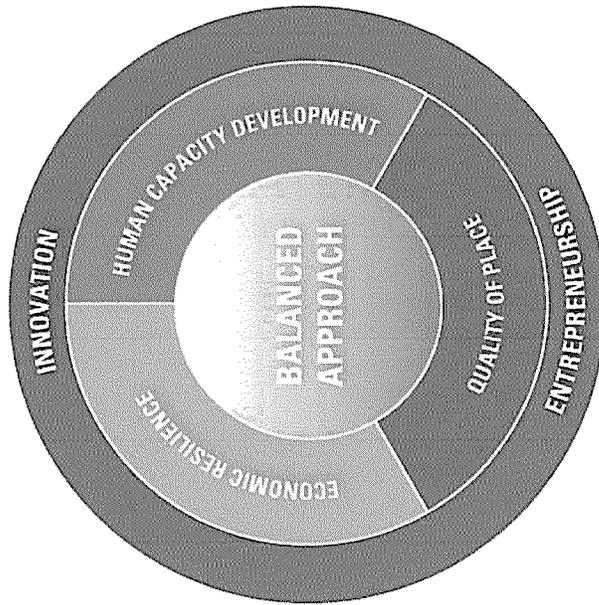
Retain
Jobs

Increase
Tax Base

Improve
Quality of
Life

Retain &
Attract
Business

High
Growth &
Wage



- Support Innovation
- Recruit & Retain Workforce
- Emerging Workforce Training
- Incumbent Workforce Training
- Cost of Doing Business
- Streamline Regulatory Process
- Stabilize Economic Up/Downs
- Vibrant Downtown Areas
- Quality Of Place
- Affordable Available Housing
- Green Recreation Space