Action Plan
2007 Board Retreat Priorities

Priority Issue # 1 **Project Title: Economic Development**
Department Head: Vince Long
Project Leader: Leigh Root / Shington Lamy

Task	Activity	Assigned To	Estimated Completion Date	Status
▪ Evaluate programs to enhance economic development, which may include: the development of a business accelerator; exploring the need for a new R & D facility; evaluate opportunities to enhance collaboration / results with economic development partners (City, State, Universities, EDC, etc.); evaluate impact of economic development programs on low income residents.	Conduct workshop on Business Accelerator (Vision 20/20)	Long/Root/Lamy	January 23, 2007	**Done.** Workshop held on 1/23/07.
	Conduct workshop to discuss: - Review of all ongoing local / state economic development programs in which Leon County participates (QTI, TBPP, EZ, Vision 2020); - Review other economic development opportunities in which Leon County does not currently participate; - Past performance and review contract with EDC for contracted services (creation / retention of 400 jobs, EZ, QTI, creation of program for incentive requests) in the amount of $199,500 for FY 2006/07 - Economic development strategies and programs utilized by similar size counties - Include impacts on low income residents - FSU's Technology Transfer Program	Long/Root/Lamy	February 27, 2007	**Done.** Workshop held on 2/27/07.

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Task	Activity	Assigned To	Estimated Completion Date	Status
▪ Evaluate programs to enhance economic development (Con't.)	- TDC's role in Economic Development - "Arts on Gaines Street"			**Done.** Workshop held on 2/27/07.
▪ Establish continuous funding source for economic development programs.	Prepare budget discussion item	Long/Rosenzweig	June 19, 2007	**Done.** The Board directed staff to pursue an amendment to a similar bill to increase the occupational license up to 50% by the Legislature, however the amendment was not considered during the 2007 legislative session. On Oct. 23, 2007 the issue was proposed to the Board for consideration as part of its 2008 Legislative Priorities, and there was general consensus to pursue this alternative. The Board ratified these actions at its Nov. 27, 2007 meeting. Staff is currently pursuing a sponsor to file a bill next year.

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▪ Researching the potential for an incubator at Innovation Park	Conduct workshop on Innovation Park	Long/Root/Lamy	April 24, 2007	**Done.** A Commission workshop and tour was conducted on 10/16/2007. County, City, and EDC staff continue to explore options on how to provide more incubator space.
▪ Evaluate utilizing County CDBG funding for economic development activities.	Conduct research, prepare appropriate response to Board (agenda item, memo, etc.)	Long/Lanham	February 13, 2007 April 10, 2007	**Ongoing.** Agenda Item #11: The Board approved issuance of an RFP for Engineering Services for the 2007 CDBG-ED Category for the Capital Circle Commerce Park Project. Agenda Item #4: The Board approved the establishment of budget authority in the amount of $750,000 for the CDBG-ED grant.

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Task	Activity	Assigned To	Estimated Completion Date	Status
▪ Evaluate utilizing County CDBG funding for economic development activities. (cont.)			April 24, 2007	Agenda Item #9: The Board authorized staff to negotiate an Agreement for Final Design and Preparation of Construction Documents for the Capital Circle Commercial Park Community Development Project with GPI Southeast, Inc.
			May 22, 2007	Agenda Item #8: The Board approved the Agreement with GPI Southeast, Inc. for final design and preparation of construction documents for the Capital Circle Commercial Park CDBG-ED Project.
			June 26, 2007	Agenda Item #9: The Board authorized an amendment to the Project Work Plan to extend the timeline for completion of the project from October 2007 to January 2008.

Attachment # 1
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Task	Activity	Assigned To	Estimated Completion Date	Status
▪ Evaluate utilizing County CDBG funding for economic development activities. (continued)				*Note: Since the County currently has this on-going CDBG-ED project, we are ineligible to apply for another until the final close-out of the project.
▪ Evaluation of economic development efforts and opportunities identified by the Knight Creative Communities Initiative	Conduct research, prepare appropriate response to Board (agenda item, memo, etc.)	Long/Root/Lamy	March 27, 2007	**Done.** Memo was distributed on August 14, 2007.
▪ Resolution of CRA	Agenda Item on Enhanced CRA	Long/Rosenzweig	February 27, 2007	**Done.** The Board approved changes to he Downtown CRA inter-local agreement at the April 10, 2007 meeting (Agenda Item #15), followed by approval of same by the City Commission at its June 27, 2007 meeting.

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