Minutes of the
Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy
Committee Meeting
Treasure Coast Regional Planning Council

June 14, 2012

The meeting was called to order at 2:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Staff called roll and announced a quorum was present. The following members and staff were present:

Martin County
- Anthony Parkinson
- Pauline Becker
- Tammy Simoneau (via conference call)
- Tim Dougher

Palm Beach County
- Gary Hines
- Carol Thompson (for Sherry Howard)
- Seabron Smith (via conference call)
- Steve Craig (via conference call)

St. Lucie County
- Michael Corbit
- Teri Pinney
- Nate Bray

Indian River County
- Randy Riley
- Mark Mathes
- Helene Caseltine (via conference call)

Staff
- Penny Myszkowski
- Greg Vaday

AGENDA

Mr. Vaday requested Item 4A, Regional Assets Map Series, be removed from the agenda. Mr. Corbit moved approval of the amended agenda. Mr. Mathes seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

MINUTES – MAY 17, 2012

Mr. Parkinson moved approval of the minutes of the May 17, 2012 meeting. Ms. Becker seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.
CEDS REWRITE

Cluster Industry Trends

Mr. Vaday made a presentation with respect to cluster industry trends. He noted a cluster is a group of industries and institutions that share common markets, suppliers, and workforce skills. He stated it is important to know what our clusters are in the region and their strengths, to help decision makers understand where they can best put resources to work. This will be part of the technical appendix of the CEDS plan. He noted that regionally we have strengths in agribusiness; arts and entertainment; life sciences; business and financial services; education and knowledge creation; manufacturing of electronic and transportation equipment; and mining. He stated industry clusters follow a life cycle of development. Emerging clusters experience rapid growth and more mature clusters are generally larger and well-established. He stated the CEDS plan would focus on two types of analysis for regional clusters, location quotients and shift-share, which he would expand on at a later date. He stated location quotients and their changes help identify strengths and weaknesses in a region’s economy. Strong industry clusters are those that have regional specialization and an increasing concentration in the region. He stated that by analyzing the location quotient, we are able to do an economic analysis of the clusters in our region and concentrate on the emerging clusters. He stated that while these analyses are good starting points, they need to be supplemented with primary data and local knowledge. He said it is important to have an ongoing dialog with our cluster industries to understand where they are going and what kind of policies they need from local government.

Ms. Thompson noted that as the bioscience and biotech industries mature, they can eventually help draw big pharmaceuticals companies to the region.

OPENING SUMMIT FOR SEVEN50 – SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES INITIATIVE

Mr. Vaday informed Committee members of an upcoming summit on June 27, 2012. The summit will be the first in a series regarding the Seven50 plan, and will focus on the state of the region and include collaborative work sessions in the areas of; Education, Workforce & Economic Development; Development Patterns (Housing, Transportation & Healthy Communities); Environment, Natural Resources & Agriculture; Climate Resiliency; Community Assets & Culture; and Inclusive Regional Leadership & Equity. He encouraged all Committee members to register at www.seven50.org.

Ms. Caseltine noted that the State Florida Economic Development Council is also having a meeting that day in Tampa, so she will be unable to attend the summit.

With respect to the CEDS plan, Mr. Vaday stated he will try to have a rough draft of the entire plan for the July meeting. He noted that staff is creating a web portal that will help facilitate the process. This portal will provide access to planning documents; meeting agendas, minutes, and PowerPoints; the map series; and linkage to other resources and complementary activities. He stated this will be operational soon. He stated that by the next meeting, we will be sending
out requests to all local governments to submit projects of regional impact into the CEDS Plan. He stated this is done every five years.

Ms. Simoneau asked if individuals will be coming to the CEDS meetings to present their projects. Mr. Vaday indicated that there is not enough time to do ten to fifteen projects, but if the submittals are minimal, then there could be presentations. He stated the new projects will be added to the revised list of projects previously discussed to create a master list by the end of August.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

COMMITTEE COMMENT

None.

STAFF COMMENT

None.

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting was adjourned 3:00 p.m. The next CEDS meeting is scheduled for July 12, 2012.