



Department Report

DATE: December 1, 2025
FROM: Dr. Philip C. Harris, D.B.A., MEDP, Director, Economic Development
SUBJECT: Monthly Report October 2025

BACKGROUND

In October 2025, the Economic Development Department continued to advance the City of Greenacres' strategic vision of inclusive growth, local business empowerment, and global engagement. Key activities focused on launching culturally aligned business networking events, fostering international partnerships, supporting workforce development, and promoting local business visibility through multimedia storytelling. These efforts are part of the City's ongoing commitment to economic resilience, community engagement, and smart redevelopment initiatives.

1. Strategic Partnerships and Regional Collaboration

- **Palm Beach County Office of Small Business Development – Hispanic Heritage Mixer**
On October 14, the City partnered with the Palm Beach County Office of Small Business Development to host a Hispanic Heritage Month Networking Mixer at Restaurante Chivo Liniero (4944 10th Ave N, Greenacres, FL 33463). The event celebrated the resilience, innovation, and contributions of Hispanic-owned businesses to Palm Beach County's economy. The gathering fostered new connections among entrepreneurs and small business leaders and showcased how cultural heritage and commerce can work hand in hand to create thriving communities.
- **City of Celaya, Mexico – International Collaboration Update**
On October 9, 2025, the City of Greenacres held an introductory meeting with leadership from the City of Celaya, Mexico, to formally explore a sister city partnership. This meeting was coordinated in collaboration with Sister Cities International and the Consulate of Mexico in Miami. Conversations align with the City's 2026 Centennial planning and broader goals of enhancing economic, cultural, and academic exchange through formal international relationships. This proposed sister city partnership with Celaya stands to deepen Greenacres' international footprint, celebrate its cultural diversity, and expand mutual economic development opportunities.
- **Consulate General of Colombia of Miami – Ruta USA Business Seminar**
On October 20, the Department hosted the third session of the Ruta USA Business Seminar, in collaboration with the Consulate General of Colombia in Miami and Colombia Nos Une. Held at City Hall, the event welcomed over 40 Colombian and Hispanic entrepreneurs, providing them with success strategies and local resources to grow their businesses in Palm Beach County. The final workshop in the series is scheduled for December 5, 2025.

- **Prospera USA – South Florida Success Stories**

On October 1, the Department participated in Prospera’s 2025 Success Stories event, presented by Verizon. This regional celebration spotlighted the journeys of successful Hispanic entrepreneurs across South Florida and reinforced the value of technical assistance and mentoring in small business growth in Greenacres.

2. Workforce Development

- **Medical Institute of Palm Beach – Pinning Ceremony**

The City proudly supported the Medical Institute of Palm Beach (MIPB) during its Nursing Pinning Ceremony on October 24, 2025, held in Greenacres. The event honored the newest graduating class of nurses, celebrating their dedication to healthcare and community service. Special remarks were delivered by Mayor Chuck Shaw and Dr. Kathleen Jude Estime, reinforcing the City’s commitment to recognizing and uplifting workforce excellence.

3. Business Assistance

- **Dine Local. Savor Greenacres – Spotlight #3**

The Department continued its promotional campaign with the third installment of “Dine Local. Savor Greenacres.” This spotlight featured the Dominican delicacy Majarete, served at Restaurante Chivo Liniero on 10th Avenue North. The campaign continues to highlight cultural richness and culinary excellence found exclusively in Greenacres, while supporting family-owned businesses.

- **Grand Openings and Ribbon Cutting Ceremonies**

Over the month of October, the Economic Development Department proudly supported several grand openings and ribbon cutting celebrations that signal continued business growth, community investment, and local job creation across Greenacres:

- **Dress for Success Palm Beach – Boutique & Community Empowerment Center**

- Greenacres welcomed **Dress for Success Palm Beach** as they launched their new boutique and community empowerment center, marking a significant addition to the city's workforce development ecosystem. The nonprofit organization provides professional attire, career coaching, and job readiness programming for women re-entering the workforce. The new location will serve as a hub for empowerment, confidence-building, and financial independence for hundreds of women in our community each year.

- Impact Highlights:*

- Professional clothing boutique with personalized styling for interviews and job placement
 - One-on-one career support and job placement coaching
 - Hosting of workshops on leadership development, financial literacy, and digital skills

- **Juici Patties – Caribbean Culinary Experience**

- The ribbon cutting for **Juici Patties**, a new Jamaican restaurant located on South Military Trail, introduced authentic Jamaican flavors to the city’s international dining scene. Known for its emphasis on authentic Jamaican flavors and heritage, Juici Patties offers a menu featuring signature hand-crafted Jamaican patties (mild beef, spicy beef, vegan, spicy curry chicken) as well as coco bread, plantains,

tropical beverages, and comfort sides.

Economic & Cultural Significance:

- Fourteen U.S. owned franchises have created new hospitality jobs for residents of Greenacres.
- Expansion of food and cultural offerings to underserved culinary niches
- Increased foot traffic and synergy with surrounding small businesses

○ **The Cottages at Palm Beach – Residential & Mixed-Use Development**

- We celebrated the completion and re-grand opening of **The Cottages at Palm Beach**, a revitalized residential and mixed-use development that enhances Greenacres' appeal as a livable, walkable community. The development includes attractive cottage-style homes, integrated green spaces, and modern design features that promote neighborhood aesthetics and quality of life.

Community Benefits:

- Helps address regional housing demand with thoughtfully designed units
- Encourages mixed-use concepts that blend residential and commercial offerings
- Improves visual appeal and long-term property values along key corridors

These grand openings reflect the continued progress of our city's business ecosystem, the effectiveness of our economic development outreach, and our commitment to supporting a diverse and resilient local economy.

● **Business Mentoring – SCORE Partnership:**

The Department launched monthly SCORE business mentoring sessions at City Hall on the third Thursday of each month (12–2 p.m.). These confidential, one-on-one sessions provide support for startups, business expansion, and entrepreneurial problem-solving.

4. Redevelopment and Investment Outreach

- The Department hosted a series of targeted meetings with developers and investors to discuss redevelopment opportunities along major commercial corridors. These conversations focused on creating vibrant mixed-use and hotel developments, aligned with the City's broader goals of economic revitalization, improved public amenities, and increased tax base generation. Key parcels under review include those suitable for retail, entertainment, and hospitality-driven investments.
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