



Department Report

MEETING DATE: March 17th, 2024
FROM: Gigi Chazu, Director, Economic Development
SUBJECT: Monthly Report – January & February

BACKGROUND

The following report provides activity within the Department of Economic Development for the reporting period from January 1st through February 29th, 2024.

1. Building Partnerships:

- Maintained ongoing collaboration with the USBDC at FAU to stay informed about available resources and programs.
- Participated in the annual summit and monthly meetings of the Hispanic Entrepreneur Initiative.
- Continued engagement with SCORE Broward, selecting relevant business education sessions.
- Attended the Economic Forum Breakfast organized by the Central Palm Beach Chamber.

2. Community Outreach:

- Established a connection with Valentina Palm, a Palm Beach Post reporter dedicated to Greenacres.
- Attended The Career Fair at Palm Beach Community School.
- Facilitated a Certificate of Recognition for an exceptional young resident who achieved an associate degree before high school graduation.
- Initiated the Small Business Survey, reaching out to over 900 businesses via email.

3. Business / Resident Assistance:

- Introduced departmental services to a handyman service.
- Supported a Tea Distributor Business with resources to kickstart their venture.
- Continued assistance to an entrepreneur in the juice distribution business.
- Reached out to the Director of Business Development for a Fitness business regarding their new site in the City.
- Assisted a resident inquiring about downpayment assistance, referring her to the County's program
- Participated in the Grand Opening of Smoothie King.
- Collaborating with a fast-food chain on their upcoming grand opening.

4. Development Initiatives:

- Progressed with the Urban Land Institute Leadership Project, providing members with a briefing on the city's plans and organizing a tour for firsthand exposure.

5. Digital Presence:

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- Maintained an active presence on the City's LinkedIn page, with posts reaching 2,429 organic impressions in February.

6. Ongoing Projects:

- Organizing the First Annual Small Business Summit scheduled for Thursday, May 2nd, with panelists secured from 8 organizations.
 - Collaborating with the Department of Communications and Public Affairs on the City rebranding Request for Proposal (RFP).
 - The Centennial Committee met to update the timeline.
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