



## Department Report

**DATE:** February 2, 2026  
**FROM:** Dr. Philip C. Harris, D.B.A., MEDP, Director, Economic Development  
**SUBJECT:** Monthly Report December 2025

### BACKGROUND

In December 2025, the Economic Development Department continued to advance the City of Greenacres' strategic vision for inclusive growth, business attraction, workforce alignment, and global engagement. Department activities during this reporting period reflect strong momentum across redevelopment discussions, international partnerships, workforce development initiatives, and small business support. Collectively, these efforts reinforce Greenacres' position as a city that is business-friendly, globally connected, and committed to long-term economic resilience as we approach our 100-Year Centennial.

#### 1. Redevelopment and Investment Outreach

- **Cobblestone Hotels**

The Department facilitated a site visit with representatives from Cobblestone Hotels and associated local investors to discuss potential development opportunities along major commercial corridors in Greenacres. Cobblestone Hotels is a Neenah, Wisconsin-based hospitality brand founded in 2008, specializing in upper-midscale hotel developments in growth-oriented communities. With more than 160 locations across 29 states, the brand is recognized for delivering high-quality accommodations while supporting local economic growth. These discussions represent continued progress toward attracting hospitality investments that strengthen the City's tax base and support corridor revitalization.

- **Corridor Redevelopment Discussions**

Throughout the month, the Department hosted targeted meetings with developers and investors to explore redevelopment opportunities along key commercial corridors. Conversations emphasized mixed-use development concepts that integrate residential, retail, entertainment, and hospitality components, including workforce and fair-market housing. These efforts align with the City's broader goals of economic revitalization, enhanced public amenities, and sustainable tax base growth.

#### 2. Strategic Partnerships and International Collaboration

- **Business Mentoring – SCORE Partnership:**

The Department continued its monthly partnership with SCORE by hosting confidential, one-on-one business mentoring sessions at City Hall on the third Thursday of each month. These sessions provide Greenacres entrepreneurs and business owners with expert guidance related to startups, business expansion, and operational challenges, further strengthening the City's small business ecosystem.

- **City of Celaya, Mexico – Sister City Initiative**

The City of Celaya formally provided a proposed Letter of Intent and draft Sister City Agreement, marking a significant milestone in the development of an international partnership grounded in shared values of economic growth, education, culture, and civic collaboration.

The proposed partnership is structured around four strategic pillars:

- **Economic Development:** Promoting bilateral investment opportunities, business matchmaking, and knowledge sharing in areas such as sustainability, tourism, and entrepreneurship.
- **Cultural Exchange:** Advancing joint celebrations, arts initiatives, and culinary exchanges that reflect Greenacres' diverse population, including a strong Hispanic and Mexican community presence.
- **Civic Exchange:** Facilitating government-to-government learning related to city management, sustainability practices, and public service delivery.
- **Education:** Supporting exchange programs between Palm Beach County institutions and Celaya's universities, including student internships and bilingual learning opportunities.

As Greenacres prepares to celebrate its Centennial, this emerging international partnership positions the City on the global stage and reflects a forward-looking commitment to collaboration, cultural pride, and economic opportunity.

- **Consulate General of Colombia of Miami – Ruta USA Business Seminar**

On December 7, 2025, the City of Greenacres participated in the Ruta USA Business Seminar and graduation ceremony at ArtsPark at Young Circle in the City of Hollywood. In partnership with the Consulate General of Colombia in Miami and Colombia Nos Une, more than 40 Colombian and Hispanic entrepreneurs were recognized for completing a business development program focused on growth strategies and local resources within Palm Beach County. This milestone event reflects the City's ongoing commitment to international engagement and inclusive economic development, including support for the Casa de Colombia Miami initiative.

### **3. Workforce Development**

- **Solid Waste Authority Business Opportunity Forecast Conference**

The Economic Development and Purchasing Departments collaborated with the Solid Waste Authority of Palm Beach County to support Greenacres businesses in attending the 2026 SWA Business Opportunity Forecast Conference on December 5, 2025. This no-cost event provided local businesses with valuable insight into upcoming SWA projects, procurement opportunities, vendor registration processes, and best practices in leadership and communication. Participation reinforced the City's commitment to ensuring local businesses are informed, prepared, and competitive for regional contracting opportunities.

### **4. Business Assistance and Business Visibility**

- **Dine Local. Savor Greenacres – Spotlight Feature**

The Department continued its Dine Local. Savor Greenacres promotional campaign with a spotlight on Eagle Grill & Oyster Bar, a family-owned restaurant located at 4636 South Jog Road. Known for its welcoming atmosphere and signature menu items, Eagle Grill & Oyster Bar exemplifies the type of locally owned business that the City is proud to support, celebrate, and promote. This campaign continues to elevate local restaurants while encouraging residents and visitors to support businesses unique to Greenacres.

- **Grand Openings and Ribbon Cuttings**

#### **Pinecrest Bakery**

On November 20, 2025, the City proudly supported the grand opening and ribbon-cutting ceremony for Pinecrest Bakery, located at 4650 Jog Road. Notably, all 14 employees at this location were hired directly through the City's 2025 Local Job Fair, demonstrating the successful alignment of workforce development and economic development strategies. This milestone underscores the City's commitment to connecting residents with quality employment opportunities.

#### **Python MMA USA**

On December 16, 2025, the City supported the grand opening and ribbon-cutting ceremony for Python MMA USA, located at 6295 Lake Worth Road, Suite 13. Owned by internationally recognized mixed martial arts champion Aung La N Sang, the business represents a unique addition to Greenacres' commercial landscape. Python MMA USA promotes youth mentorship, health and wellness, and

community engagement, while connecting Greenacres to a global athletic network.

Collectively, these business openings reflect continued progress in strengthening Greenacres' business ecosystem and highlight the effectiveness of proactive economic development outreach.

##### 5. Performance Measures

PERFORMANCE MEASURES	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2025	FY 2026 YTD
	ACTUAL	ACTUAL	BUDGET	ADOPTED
<b>OUTPUT MEASURES</b>				
Number of public awareness sessions	N/A	0	24	<b>10</b>
Number of businesses assisted	N/A	0	52	<b>24</b>
Number of resource referrals	N/A	0	52	<b>20</b>
Number of Jobs supported	N/A	0	110	<b>32</b>

PERFORMANCE MEASURES	FY 2025	FY 2026 YTD
OUTCOME MEASURES	REVISED	ADOPTED
Created new jobs through business expansion and redevelopment projects across the City.	N/A	<b>26</b>
Partner with organizations such as Chambers of Commerce, SCORE, CareerSource, or other partners to co-host at least 4 business development workshops or job fairs, designed to engage participants and provide valuable resources actively.	N/A	<b>60</b>
Through collaboration with partner organizations (e.g. Prospera, Chambers of Commerce, CareerSource), deliver one-on-one technical assistance to small businesses in Greenacres.	N/A	<b>32</b>

December 2025 reflects a period of strong progress and positive momentum for the City of Greenacres' Economic Development efforts. Through strategic redevelopment discussions, international collaboration, workforce alignment, and targeted business support, the Department continues to advance initiatives that strengthen the local economy and enhance the quality of life for residents. As Greenacres approaches its Centennial celebration, these efforts collectively reinforce the City's vision for sustainable growth, global engagement, and long-term economic vitality.

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